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JOURNAL OF CIVILIZATION

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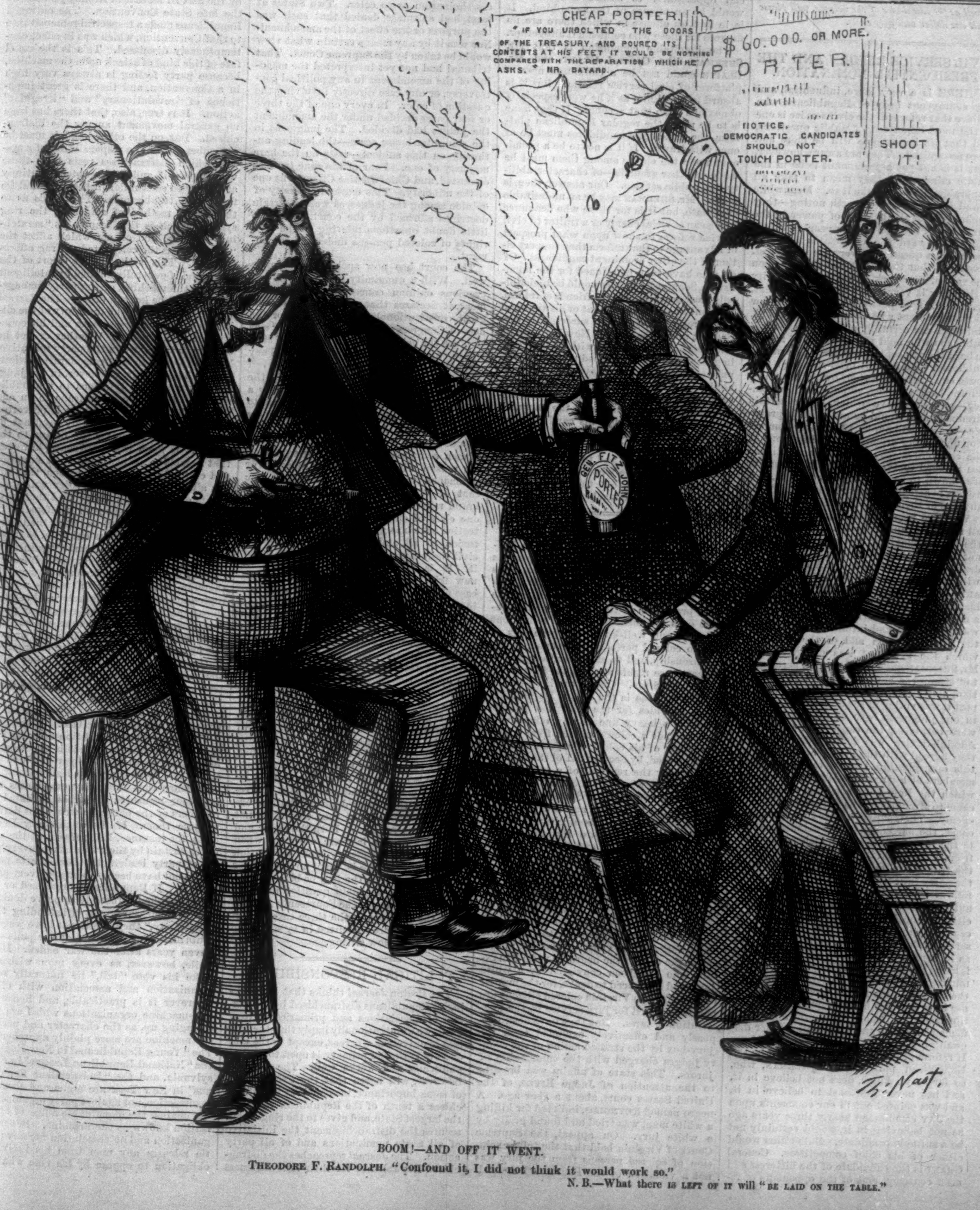

CHEAP PORTER.
"IF YOU UNBOLTED THE DOORS OF THE TREASURY, AND POURED ITS CONTENTS AT HIS FEET IT WOULD BE NOTHING COMPARED WITH THE REPARATION WHICH HE ASKS." MR. BAYARD.
$60.000. OR MORE.
PORTER.
NOTICE.
DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES SHOULD NOT TOUCH PORTER.
SHOOT IT!
GEN. FITZ JOHN PORTER
Th: Nast.

BOOM!—AND OFF IT WENT.

Theodore F. Randolph. "Confound it, I did not think it would work so."

N. B.—What there is LEFT OF IT will "BE LAID ON THE TABLE."

HARPER'S WEEKLY.
Saturday, March 27, 1880.

☞ *With this Number of* Harper's Weekly *our readers will receive the 20th issue of* Harper's Young People, *containing the second chapter of a new and very interesting serial story, entitled* "Across the Ocean; or, A Boy's First Voyage." *It will be profusely and graphically illustrated.*

Number 20 of Harper's Young People *completes the 13 numbers of that paper sent to subscribers to* Harper's Weekly *for the present year. If any of our little readers wish to complete the volume, which ends with the number to be published October 26, 1880, they can do so by sending to the publishers one dollar, for which sum the remaining 32 numbers will be sent, postage free, to any address in the United States or Canada. Those who desire the back numbers, as well as the remainder of the volume, will please remit one dollar and fifty cents.*

CIVIL SERVICE REFORM AND THE PRESIDENTIAL NOMINATION.

THERE is a very large, influential, and courageous body of Republicans who believe that reform of the civil service is one of the most important of public questions, and that its importance will be more and more recognized. They are aware, however, that it is not yet a paramount issue in the public mind, while they mean to take all honorable means to make it so. Meanwhile—and it is a fact well worth noting—they probably hold the balance of power in the Presidential election of this year, and their position toward the candidates becomes, therefore, a question of very great interest. Assuming that the result will depend upon the vote of New York, in which the majority either way is very small, it is evident that, upon a fair trial between the parties, a few thousand voters will determine the result, and there are certainly a few thousand Republicans who hold the question of reform to be of the utmost importance. Reform Republicans, therefore, will either name a separate candidate upon their own platform of reform, honest money, and national supremacy—an alternative which, under certain circumstances, would be not at all improbable—or they will support the party nomination upon other grounds; and since none of the candidates who are chiefly mentioned are pledged to the principles of reform, or are known to be in sympathy with it, it is useless to attempt to test the availability of any one of them by that standard.

We have been asked plainly whether of all the chief candidates Mr. **Sherman** is not the most obnoxious, and whether he must not be repudiated necessarily by all who desire reform, and with equal plainness we will answer the question. When Mr. **Evarts** and Mr. **Sherman** came to New York last autumn and advocated the election of a candidate for Governor whose nomination was an express and intentional defiance of the Administration and of the reform to which the President was pledged—when Mr. **Sherman** gave Mr. **Dutcher** permission to "stump the State" for the same nomination, and Mr. **Evarts** said that not to support it was voting in the air—we stated that in our judgment both of those gentlemen were betraying the cause with which the Administration was identified. Whether they agreed with the President or not upon this one question, they were still leading members of a "reform" Administration, of which the New York machine, which they came to strengthen, was the most malignant enemy. Their support, more than any other cause, the surrender of the Administration to the New York machine, disheartened its friends, delighted its enemies, and, securing the triumph of the machine, brought upon the party the **Smyth** affair, and all that will follow. The course of the Secretaries in the autumn election alone would have prevented either of those gentlemen from being an acceptable candidate upon a platform of civil service reform. If, now, as is alleged, but as he denies, the Secretary of the Treasury is using the patronage of his position, or permitting it to be used, as every opponent of the reform, in his position, would certainly use it, to promote his own nomination, he is illustrating still more plainly the abuse that demands reform, and he is still further disqualifying himself as a reform candidate. If reform of the civil service were to be the Republican platform, Mr. **Sherman**, who, so far as we know, does not believe in it, and has never professed to believe in it, and was pointed out in our comments upon the **Jay** commission nearly three years ago as not believing in it, would certainly not be a suitable candidate. But neither would either of his chief competitors. General **Grant** is the candidate of the bitterest and most contemptuous of the opponents of reform, and Mr. **Blaine** was never suspected of friendship for it. Evidently, if civil service reform should be the platform, they are all disqualified. But should it not be the platform, hostility or unbelief no more disqualifies one than another. If Mr. **Sherman**, we repeat, is misusing the power of his position—which, however, he has expressly denied—it is a gross wrong, for which it is no excuse that the opponents of reform would think him a fool if he did not do what they accuse him of doing. If he be guilty, it is of an abuse which such opponents do not condemn. Undoubtedly it would be very much worse for a member of the cabinet to prostitute the patronage at his command to secure the nomination, than for the friends of a candidate not in office to use the power of patronage for him. The opportunity which high office, and especially the chief office, gives for such prostitution, is one of the strongest arguments against a third term, and the abuse of official opportunity to secure a first term would be an offense of the same kind. It is, in fact, an offense in which there are no degrees for those who condemn it altogether.

The inevitable conclusion is that Mr. **Sherman**, like General **Grant** and Mr. **Blaine**, could not be a candidate upon a platform of civil service reform. But it is absurd to assail him as if he were especially obnoxious upon that account. If that issue is to be made the regular Republican platform, the three chief candidates must be at once withdrawn. If it is not to be a prominent issue, the choice among them must be made on other grounds—of character, ability, and public service. Our answer, then, is plain. Mr. **Sherman** may be an undesirable candidate, but it is for those who denounce him as an especial enemy or a traitor to civil service reform to show upon what prospect of advantage to that reform they support either of the other prominent candidates. Of all who have been mentioned for the nomination, Senator **Edmunds** would be undoubtedly most acceptacle to the friends of reform. Without knowing the extent of his approval of the reformed system as successfully carried out under the rules in New York, we do know his former sympathy with its aims, and, in general, with its proposed methods. His pure character and spotless career, his great ability and long experience in the public service, his sturdy and steady Republicanism and his just eminence in the party, all point him out, although his candidacy has not been very seriously considered, as a candidate who would be acceptable to every element of the party, and to the whole independent vote, and to whom no other objection could be urged than that he would not be acceptable to the machine.

THE CIVIL RIGHTS CASES.

The Fourteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution declares that all persons born in the United States, and subject to its jurisdiction, are citizens. It then prohibits every State from denying to any citizen the equal protection of the laws. The amendment does not mention race or color; but its great and well-known purpose was to give to colored persons the common rights of citizenship, and to empower Congress to protect those rights against the hostile action of any State. One of the laws passed for this purpose is the act of March, 1875, which provides for the trial and punishment by a heavy fine of any officer who shall exclude a colored citizen from a jury on account of his color. Congress has further provided, by Section 641 of the Revised Statutes, for the removal of a case to the Federal court whenever a citizen is denied, or can not enforce, in a State court, "any right secured to him by any law providing for the equal civil rights of citizens of the United States." Despite the Fourteenth Amendment, however, and the laws passed by Congress to give effect to it, colored citizens have been unlawfully excluded from the jury-box in more than one State. In West Virginia this wrong has been done by express legislation. A statute passed in 1873 declares that no colored person shall sit on a jury, and the Supreme Court of that State affirmed the constitutionality of the act in the case of the negro **Taylor Strander**, who had been convicted by a white jury, and sentenced to death, for the murder of his wife. In Virginia colored citizens are not disqualified for jury service by the Constitution or laws. But they have been purposely and effectively excluded from the jury-box by the studied action of the county judges charged with the summoning of jurors. This state of affairs was brought to the attention of Judge **Rives**, of the United States court, about a year ago. A negro named **Reynolds**, indicted for killing a white man, was tried and found guilty by a white jury. On appeal, the Supreme Court of Virginia held that the total exclusion of colored persons from the jury was not a violation of the Fourteenth Amendment or any act of Congress. Judge **Rives** then granted an application for the removal of the case to the United States court, pursuant to Section 641 of the Revised Statutes. At the same time he caused a number of county judges to be indicted, under the act of Congress of 1875, for making an unlawful discrimination against colored citizens in the summoning of jurors.

The **Strander** and the **Reynolds** cases, and the case of Judge **Coles** (one of the indicted county judges), were carried to the Supreme Court of the United States. They were argued together last October, and they are now decided together. In each case there were special points not directly involved in the other two. But the great fundamental question in all was whether the Fourteenth Amendment secures, or empowers Congress to secure, to colored citizens the privilege of sitting as jurors in a State court, or the right to demand that a jury for the trial of grave questions of life, liberty, or property shall be chosen without discrimination as to color. Two States at least had solemnly denied that such was the purpose or the effect of the amendment. Nor was it by any means certain what view would be taken by the Supreme Court. That tribunal had not yet interpreted the meaning of the amendment in any political controversy, or any case directly involving the question of color. In every one of the three or four cases decided under the amendment the judges had divided. The judgment in the slaughter-house cases—the leading authority on this subject—rests on the bare majority of one. Four of the nine justices dissented, and Chief Justice **Chase** was one of the minority. This marked diversity of opinion among the judges, as well as certain doctrines affirmed by the court, left in no little doubt questions relating to the civil rights of colored persons under the amendment.

The court has now spoken, and spoken well. With a unanimity not found in any previous opinion concerning the amendment, it declares that the purpose of this great constitutional guarantee, and of the acts of Congress for its enforcement, "was to place the colored race, in respect of civil rights, upon a level with whites. They made the rights and responsibilities, civil and criminal, of the two races exactly the same." The court declares that trial by a jury chosen without discrimination as to color is a right secured to every citizen by the Fourteenth Amendment. "The very idea of a jury," says the opinion, "is a body of men composed of the peers or equals of the person whose rights it is selected or summoned to determine." A statute like that of West Virginia is pronounced a brand upon the colored race. It denies to one class of citizens that equality of protection which is guaranteed by the Constitution to all, and deprives of a valuable civil right every colored person tried under it. It is, therefore, unconstitutional. A new trial was accordingly ordered in the case of **Strander**. In the **Coles** case and in that of **Strander** the judgment of the Supreme Court is against the State. But the case of **Reynolds** was ordered to be returned from the Federal to the State jurisdiction. This was done on technical grounds. Under Section 641 of the Revised Statutes the application for removal to the Federal courts should have been made before trial in the State court. The Supreme Court admits that Congress has full power to pass a more effective statute, but the act now in force is not as broad as the Fourteenth Amendment. Moreover, **Reynolds** had claimed the right of trial by a mixed jury. But this is not one of the rights secured by the Fourteenth Amendment. The law requires not that colored jurors shall be expressly summoned, but that they shall not be purposely rejected. Both the letter and the spirit of the law are observed when the jurors are selected without distinction as to color. There is, then, no ground for complaint whether the jury be black, white, or mixed. On the main question involved as to the meaning of the Fourteenth Amendment the opinions in the three cases are in harmony, and are concurred in by six of the eight justices now sitting.

POLITICAL RESPONSIBILITY.

The Boston *Journal* thinks that in speaking of Republicans disfranchised by the system of associations and primaries in New York, we unintentionally imply that the system is universal, whereas, except in the city of New York, the primary is open to all Republicans, and works well. The *Journal*, however, will agree that the exception is of some importance, inasmuch as it disfranchises a tenth of the Republican voters in the largest State, and gives to the ring which secures the disfranchisement the initiative of all State nominations and of all party action. The *Journal* reproaches the disfranchised Republicans for their lukewarmness in not adding a few thousand good names to the lists of the associations and obtaining control of them. But we supposed that we had sufficiently explained the impracticability of this course. Nobody can be admitted except upon proper presentation, reference to a committee, and a pledge to support all "regular" party nominations and action, whatever they may be. These, as the *Journal* will see, are conditions contrived for the purpose of packing the associations with manageable members. In a word, the New York system can not be broken up from within, as the *Journal* suggests, but only from without.

There are two ways only of attacking it from without. One is an organization of those who can not honorably join the associations under present conditions, and an appeal to the State Convention. This is possible, of course, and it has been attempted more than once. There was never a more flagrant and scornful disregard of the rights of Republican voters than that shown by the **Smyth** faction in Albany just before the late State Convention. The outraged Republicans made a respectful remonstrance to that Convention, which was in effect contemptuously dismissed. This is the usual fate of this kind of attack upon the machine, because party feeling is always very high in a Convention, and there is great impatience of "revolutionary" and "irregular" action. It is true, also, that there has been no general movement among the disfranchised. But, on the other hand, it must be remembered that the responsibility of a system which disfranchises rests with those who impose it, and that a voter is entirely at liberty to seek relief in the way that he finds least troublesome. This leads us to the second method of attacking the ring system, which is that known as "scratching"—a word and an act which affect the "machine" as the celebrated red rag affects the bull. This is the easiest resort of the voter, and if generally applied by intelligent citizens, the machine, or the party management, would be kept in order. The *Journal* will remember that the first duty of the citizen is to his own conscience and his country, not to his party. Whether or not he chooses to take part in the party initiative, he is not bound by any consideration whatever to abide by it, whenever, in his judgment, it would be injurious to the public welfare. His party is a means to an end that he desires, and if he sees it perverted against that end, he certainly need not be such a fool as to prefer the means to the end. It is upon this preference, however, that a machine always counts. It supposes, and certainly not without reason, that under all circumstances the voter will stand by his own party, on the ground that, however bad its nominations or indefensible its propositions, they must be better than those of the other side. He is exhorted to forget persons in policies, to remember "principles, not men." Undoubtedly, but principles and policies are made effective only by men. If, therefore, some man is offered as a party representative whose character and associations repel honest and self-respecting party men, they betray the principles of their party if they sustain him. They may or may not have time and opportunity to organize. But whether they do or not, if they value the principles of their party, they will oppose every candidate and measure which in their judgment discredits the party, and therefore tends to destroy it as a means of promoting the public welfare.

The fundamental condition of party success is independence, and it is the want of independence within the party which destroys it. If every party leader knew by experience that unworthy candidates and improper measures would be defeated by members of the party, he would not dare to propose them. If the antislavery Democrats, for instance, had refused at the outset to sustain by their votes the slavery policy of party leaders, the Democratic party would not have become a huge slavery propaganda. If Republicans, organized or unorganized, had refused to approve doubtful men and measures, notwithstanding their "regularity," they would not have waged a doubtful national contest at the polls only eleven years after the war ended. Meanwhile, however, as every man wishes to make his vote "tell," he naturally seeks organization and association with others wherever it is practicable, and hence the anti-machine organizations which are now springing up, as the character and peril of the machine are more plainly apprehended. The "Young Republicans" in New England, the "National Republican League" in Pennsylvania, and the "Independent Republicans" in New York are signs and forms of insurrection, not against party organization, but against the abominable abuse of organization known as the machine. But no organization and no association nor any party tie releases any man from his individual obligation to oppose by his vote whatever seems to him injurious to the common welfare and to the principles he cherishes. The apparent implication of the *Journal* that in some indescribable way an American citizen is bound to vote for what he thinks to be wrong or impolitic, if he has made no effort to prevent its proposition, is extraordinary. He may have foreseen the mischief, and have striven to prevent it, or he may not have known it to be mischievous, or even have thought of it, until he comes to vote. But under all circumstances he is individually responsible for his vote, and no party and no machine can absolve him from that responsibility.

THE UTE TREATY.

The treaty which Secretary Schurz has concluded with the Indians is of very great importance, and illustrates the sagacity and energy with which he deals with this most difficult question. We have not always agreed with his views, but this treaty is the first step ever taken toward a true solution of the Indian problem. It discards the signal folly of regarding the Indians as semi-nations, and treats them as individuals. Of course it is an experiment, but it is one which ought to be tried. The story of the Utes is as shameful for the United States as every other Indian story. Twelve years ago a treaty was made with them setting apart a reservation in Colorado for their "absolute and undisturbed use and occupation," and the United States "solemnly" agreed that no invasion should be permitted. Within two years the Governor of the Territory denounced the treaty as reserving "the best agricultural, pasturing, and mining land on the continent" for savages. The reservation, despite the "solemn" agreement, was soon overrun by miners and ranch-men. Councils were held by the Indians and the Commissioners looking to the extinction of the Indian title—our traditional course after a "solemn" guarantee of perpetuity. The Commissioners said that they could not keep the people away. Ouray, the Ute chief, asked, simply, "Is not the government strong enough to keep its agreement with us?" The end was a surrender of part of the reservation, and a transfer.

This is an illustration of our Indian policy hitherto. It is one of the worst chapters in our history, and Mr. Schurz's administration of the Interior Department will be justly memorable if he effectually breaks it up. A timely and valuable manual both for the historical student and for the statesman is the work of the Hon. George W. Manypenny, formerly Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and chairman of the Sioux Commission of 1876, which is just published by Messrs. Robert Clarke & Co., Cincinnati, containing a clear and detailed account of our Indian relations from the beginning of the government down to the Ute difficulty. He calls it *Our Indian Wards*, and he agrees with all who are most familiar with the subject that trouble with the Indians has always proceeded from us.

The present treaty cedes the Ute reservation in Colorado which we had "solemnly" guaranteed, and settles the Indians along the La Platte River, and in Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah. The distinction of the arrangement is that the government is to give an inalienable title for twenty-five years in fee-simple to each Indian for his land, which for the same term is not taxable. There is to be an annuity paid until the Indians become self-supporting. With this last exception, they become settlers like other people. It is the abandonment of the old and vicious policy, and provides, as that did not, for the civilization of the Indians, and the disappearance of the "Indian question." The fifteen Ute chiefs who sign the treaty expect to obtain the assent of the tribes, and with their acquiescence, and the prosperous beginning of a humane and reasonable policy, this Administration will have established another title to the respect and confidence of the country.

THE NATIONAL ELECTION LAWS.

We speak elsewhere of the late decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States in the Civil Rights cases. The court has now decided, with but two dissenting justices, the complete constitutionality of the National Election Laws. The court affirms the power of Congress to regulate the election of Representatives in such way as it deems wisest; to appoint Federal officers to enforce such regulations, and to punish those who violate them. This opinion is undoubtedly the deliberate judgment of the country, and it was the perception that its principle was not acknowledged by the Democratic party, as the extra session showed, which largely explains the Republican victories of last year.

This decision is of great importance, and is very satisfactory. The great purposes which it was the object of the new amendments to secure have been opposed by the Democratic party upon constitutional grounds, and the Supreme Court, as in the Civil Rights opinions, has happily decided the amendments to be effectual for the purpose designed. The present decision, however, meets the Democratic attempt to nullify by indirection Republican voting in the Southern States, not upon one of the amendments, but upon the constitutional provision that Congress may make or alter regulations for the election of Representatives.

As the court has thus decided the laws under which marshals and deputies are appointed to be constitutional, it remains to be seen whether Congress will still withhold appropriations for their payment. Should it do so, should the enormous folly of the extra session be repeated, the Democrats will invite a verdict at the polls which will amaze them.

THE UNITED STATES AND THE LESSEPS CANAL.

As we hoped, the President, in a clear and admirable message, has reiterated the Monroe doctrine as applicable to the proposed Lesseps canal. The time is well chosen, for as yet no interests are involved; and the manner is most excellent, for it is wholly without buncombe or bravado. As the President points out, the canal, if dug, would really complete our coast-line, and become the waterway between our States. Such a work must be under the supervision of some great power, and that power of necessity must be the United States.

Professor Woolsey, of the Yale Law School—not President Woolsey, who is a recognized authority upon questions of public law—has published a letter, which appeared a day or two before the message of the President, in which he holds "that until the French government tries, through the canal, to constrain the people of Colombia in their choice of government, the Monroe doctrine has no applicability in the matter, and should not be referred to in connection with it." But Professor Woolsey admits the possibility that the French government might at some time begin to interfere with the State of Colombia in connection with the canal, and that then it might be necessary for us to step in.

It seems better, however, and fairer for all interests, that the precise attitude of the government should be defined in advance, and that is the course which the President has pursued. It is evident to Professor Woolsey, as to every observer, that a question may arise. To the most careful and sagacious it seems impossible that a question should not arise. The general subject is one upon which the United States have a sound and traditional policy, and the President, therefore, simply announces that "the policy of this country is a canal under American control. The United States can not consent to the surrender of this control to any European power or to any combination of European powers......No European power can intervene for such protection without adopting measures on this continent which the United States would deem wholly inadmissible."

THE ENGLISH ELECTION.

They manage these things differently in England. The head of the Government studies the situation, awaits a favorable moment, sees the mistakes of his opponents, then decides what issue shall be submitted to the country, and summons a general election. He issues his notice on the 8th of March, and by May the newly elected Commons will be in operation. In this country we begin the practical work of the election ten months before it takes place; three months afterward the new Administration takes office, and a year afterward the new legislators take their seats.

Lord Beaconsfield has seen the weak spot in the armor of his adversary. That weakness is the Liberal coquetting with the Irish Repeal question. So far as can be seen on this side of the sea, the one thing that England refuses to think of is any relaxation of the bond of union with Ireland and Scotland. Union is now a vital political necessity, and when the movement for Home Rule, or virtual Repeal of the Union, is combined with attacks upon property and vested rights, British conservatism in every degree springs to the contest.

In Mr. Disraeli's novel of *Tancred* he describes one of his Hebrew wise men writing upon the wall of a chamber, with melodramatic mystery, the word "Time." It meant that time is the avenger, time makes all things even. Lord Beaconsfield evidently believes that his wise man was indeed wise. Time is a friend who now helps the Premier at a pinch, and gives him the chance of renewed power which he had forfeited. But the ablest men in England will expose remorselessly the character and results of his administration. Whether it will avail against the impatience and even apprehension of the Irish agitation is yet to be seen; but in any event Lord Beaconsfield has chosen his "time" wisely.

MEXICAN TALK.

What are the Senators and Representatives and newspapers which declare that the great danger which confronts us is a fraudulent count of the electoral vote doing to prevent it? If there be, indeed, a plot of this kind, it takes precedence of all other public questions, and it is idle to vent rhetorical rage upon the general wickedness of Democrats if there be good reason to believe that this is their particular intention. The course to pursue is to demand that a plan of counting the vote shall be provided at this session of Congress, and a plan which is obviously not a trick. The responsibility lies with the Democrats. They control the majority in Congress, and their duty is plain. But Republicans can remind the country of the necessity, and insist upon action.

In the mean while it should be remembered that under the Constitution and the laws there is no provision for any candidate who assumes to have been elected to seat himself. The law does not authorize a candidate to decide for himself whether he has been elected, and the suggestion that he might so decide and act upon the decision is simple revolution and anarchy. We observe that a Democratic paper objects to the nomination of Mr. Tilden by its party because he was elected last time and did not take his seat. This is very Mexican talk. There is but one constitutional method of knowing who is elected, and in 1876–77 that method decided that it was not Mr. Tilden, but Mr. Hayes. Now at what time before or after that decision was Mr. Tilden to announce that he had been elected, and proceed to try to take his seat? Had he undertaken to do it at any time whatever, before or after that lawful decision, the land would have been drenched with the blood of a more terrible conflict than this continent has ever seen.

That is not the American way; and does any Democrat in his senses now believe, however sure he may be of Mr. Tilden's election at that time, that it would have been better if he had assumed to decide the fact of election for himself, and had made a dash for the seat? Congress, indeed, may attempt to count a candidate in or out. Certainly: and it was accused of doing so three years ago. Such a proceeding would be the most monstrous and dangerous of frauds. But is there no remedy but revolution? Has our whole republican system broken down? It is the duty of those who believe that a great crime is contemplated not to await it for the purpose of opposing it with another, but to insist that, so far as law may avail, it shall be made impracticable.

PERSONAL.

Mr. B. G. Northrup, of Connecticut, has received from the Minister of the Interior of Japan, in recognition of his services in behalf of Japanese students, a beautiful breakfast, dinner, and tea set of china, of about two hundred pieces, with his initials on each. The decorations on each piece are very beautiful, and required a long time to finish.

—The Rev. William M. Baker, of Boston, is the author of that very entertaining book *His Majesty, Myself*. He is also the author of some dozen other fictions, prominent among which are *The New Timothy*, and *Colonel Dunwoddie, Millionaire*. Mr. Baker is pastor of a small Presbyterian congregation in Boston, a thin, spare, middle-aged gentleman, and is highly prized for social and intellectual qualities by those who know him. He is a native of Virginia, and during the war preached in Louisiana and Texas. His experiences at that time were published by Harper & Brothers in a volume entitled *Inside*.

—The Marquis of Bute has enrolled himself among the noble authors of England by his recently published translation of *The Roman Breviary*, which is the first translation of that work yet made out of Latin into English. Every line of this translation is in the handwriting of the marquis himself, who has devoted ten years to the work. An idea of its magnitude may be gained from the fact that it comprises over three thousand closely printed pages in double column.

—It is said that among the rising young men in the British Parliament four on the Conservative side are especially conspicuous, viz., Mr. Charles Lewis, a lawyer, who represents Londonderry, and who has the gift of oratory; Lord George Hamilton, who is good when he is not careless; Mr. Edward Stanhope, when he is not too fast or too conversational; and Mr. David Plunket, when he feels his subject, and who is said to have scored at the commencement of this session one of the greatest successes for a private member ever remembered by this generation within the walls of the House of Commons.

—The best dinner-table talkers in England are said to be Lord Chief Justice Cockburn, Judah P. Benjamin, Mr. Gladstone, Cardinal Manning, Lord Rosebery, and Dean Stanley. So says the London correspondent of the Baltimore *Sun*, and of these he thinks Dean Stanley, on the whole, the best. Cardinal Manning, he says, is gifted in the art of words that convey thoughts, illumining the soul and the mind at once, and with equal though different brilliancy. He pleases you, and is pleased in doing so. You invariably learn something from his charming stories, his quiet wit, or his earnest truisms. This art of conversation is a great accomplishment, and in no country, after France, is it so highly esteemed as in the higher grades of English society.

—In Leadville the ornamental part of public worship receives particular and expensive attention. The Episcopal parish there have offered Mrs. Latey, of Omaha, $1200 to sing for them a year, and her sister, Miss Spoor, $900.

—Sir George Dasent has undertaken to prepare for publication the life and letters of the late John T. Delane, to be published in October next. The correspondence being with persons of the highest distinction in the political, financial, literary, artistic, and social life of England, one may reasonably expect that it will be a work of remarkable interest. Sir George Dasent is a Scandinavian scholar, a novelist, a barrister, a Civil Service Commissioner, and was for many years a writer on the *Times* under Mr. Delane, whose sister he married.

—Mr. John A. Cuthbert, of Mobile, Alabama, is still practicing law in that city, although ninety-one years old. He was an officer in the war of 1812, and in 1819 was a member of Congress from Georgia.

—The College for Orphans founded by Stephen Girard, which was opened on the 1st of January, 1848, appears from the annual report of the directors, just published, to have more than fulfilled the expectations that were originally entertained of it. The number at present in the institution is 870. During its existence it has received and educated 2464 orphans, and has indentured 1028 boys. The applications for admission continue to be in excess of its capacity to receive. Three hundred and eighty-nine applications are now on file, which can only be considered as vacancies occur. The report concludes: "The directors fully appreciate the responsible nature of the work to which they have been called. To educate the orphan, to distribute fuel to the poor, to provide the means of relief and cure for those whose sight is affected, and to zealously guard the bequests and intentions of those long dead, are among the highest duties which man can perform for his fellow-man."

—By special arrangement with the author, Miss Braddon's new and popular novel, "Just as I Am," is now appearing serially in the weekly edition of the Cincinnati *Commercial*. The installment published each week in that paper is printed from early sheets purchased from Miss Braddon, and corresponds with the portion of the story published at the same time in England. Messrs. Harper & Brothers have also concluded arrangements with Miss Braddon which will enable them to publish the story in the "Franklin Square Library" simultaneously with its publication in book form in England, and in advance of its publication, complete, by any other publisher in America.

—Mr. Speaker Randall is a person whom the Chicago *Times* thinks would attract interest in almost any crowd. He is tall, broad-shouldered, and very individual in his personal bearing. His face is a dead sallow white, and stands out in marked contrast with his intensely jet-black eyes and coal-black hair. He almost always wears steel-bowed glasses. The lower part of his face, which is always clean-shaved, indicates bull-dog firmness and tenacity. He almost invariably dresses in black. He lives in a very quiet, unpretentious way, in a very inexpensive house on Capitol Hill. He is never seen in a carriage, but walks about town. Mr. Randall is a pronounced teetotaller, devoted to his family, and irreproachable in private life.

—The gentlemen editorially employed in the various departments of the London *Times* have each a room to himself, and work under all the advantages of seclusion and silence. These rooms are spacious, often sixteen or twenty feet square, with high ceilings, well lighted and ventilated, and substantially furnished. They have something of the comfortable air of a university chamber.

—Meissonier, the distinguished Parisian painter, is sixty-seven, and has acquired a fortune of about $200,000. He might have been worth thrice that sum, but he has the tastes of a millionaire, and is especially given to the luxuries of the table. His "cave" is said to be of exceptional excellence. He works slowly, and asks from $3000 to $5000 for a portrait.

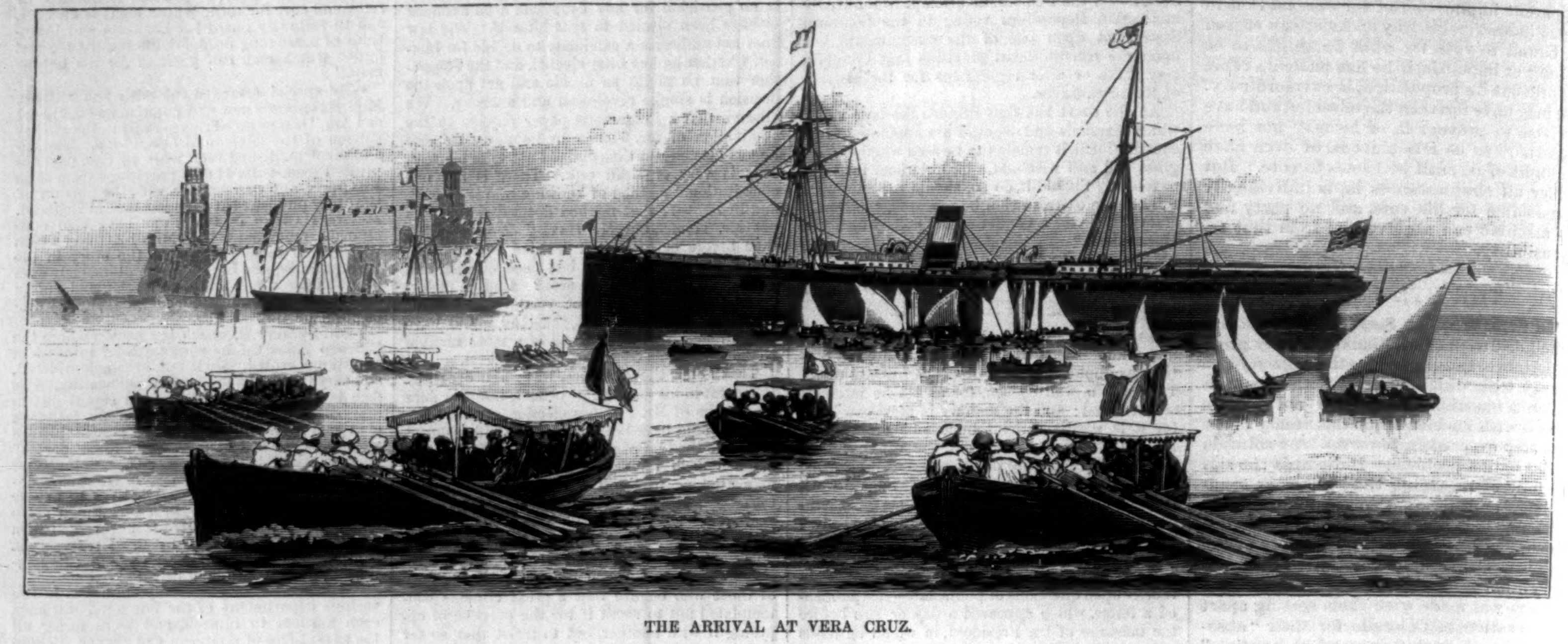
—Dr. Alexander Keith died on February 7, at Buxton, England, at the advanced age of eighty-nine. Born in Aberdeenshire in 1791, he published the first edition of his great work on *The Literal Fulfillment of Prophecy* in 1823, and in 1839 became one of a deputation sent by the General Assembly to various Eastern countries, with the view of establishing missions to the Jews. It is worth while to mention this fact, because the missions in which this journey issued were the first strictly Church missions to the Jews since the times of the Apostles. Dr. Keith held views on prophecy which very few educated theologians would now indorse. History and the literature of travel were ransacked by him for evidence of the literal fulfillment of prophetic descriptions down to the minutest and apparently poetical details. Jealous as he was for the inspiration of prophecy, as he, at least, understood it, he was a man of an affectionate disposition, and no mere controversialist. Readers of the life of Dr. John Duncan will remember the remarkable episode at Pesth in which Dr. Keith plays so important a part.

—Mr. Samuel Smiles, the author of *Self-Help* and other books pointing out the way to succeed by means of thrift and hard work, has just been honored by the King of Italy, who has conferred upon him the rank of Chevalier of Saints Maurice and Lazarus, "as a token of his Majesty's appreciation of your very valuable works," and the insignia of the order have been forwarded to Mr. Smiles, along with a complimentary letter from Count Visone, Minister of the Household.

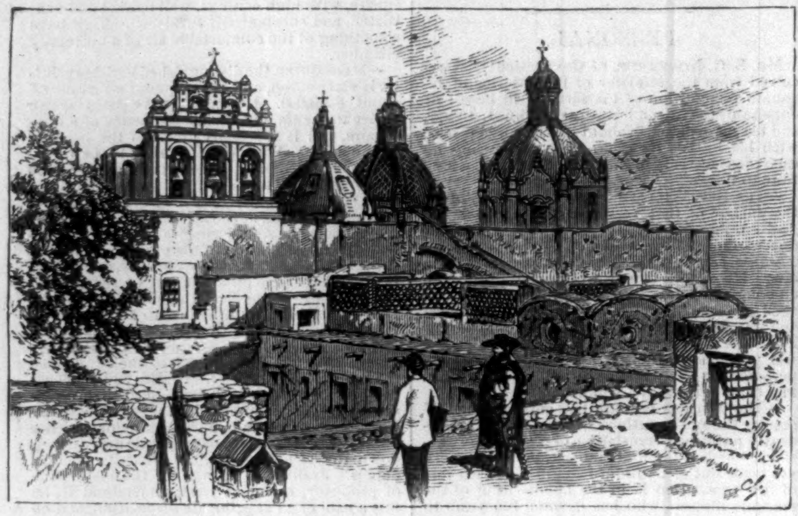
—M. Meissonier decidedly refuses to be patronized. It is related that a rich Englishman came to him one day and offered him $1000 if he would paint his portrait and agree to finish it in a fortnight. "If you fail," he added, "I shall deduct $5 a day until you have delivered it." This angered the artist, who declared he wouldn't paint the portrait for $10,000. "You are not a fit subject," he said, "for any pencil. Allow me to bid you good-morning." "I dare say, now, that you are joking," responded the Briton; "but I won't insist on the deduction if you'll agree not to detain me very long." "Detain you?" echoed the artist. "I won't detain you another second. There is the door. Go!" "What—what's the matter?" inquired John Bull; "what is all this row about?" "It means that you have mistaken your man. You think me exclusively an animal painter. I paint horses and dogs, but curs never."

—Queen Margaret of Italy is said to look apathetic, dull, and ill; her violent attacks of hysteria are over, but her cheerfulness has not returned. At the recent opening of the Italian Parliament the pale Queen was dressed entirely in white; even her mantle was of white satin, richly embroidered in gold.

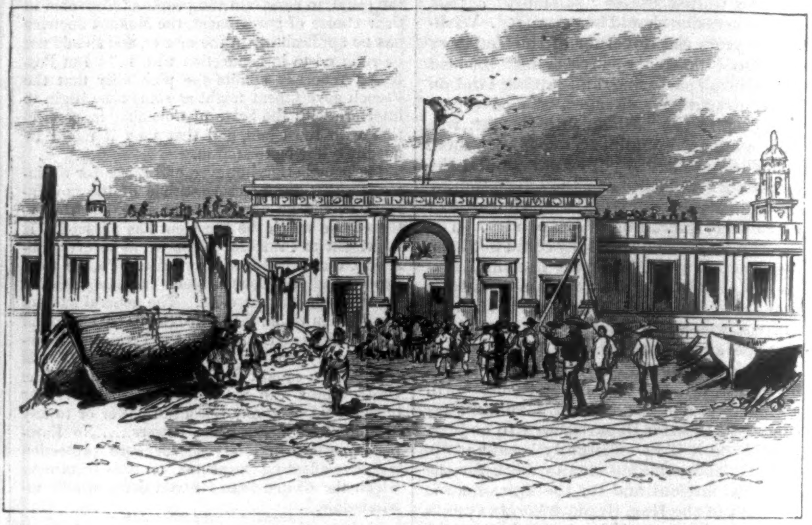
—Mr. Pierre Lorillard, of this city, has, with his accustomed liberality, organized an expedition for exploring the antiquities of Mexico. The expense of the expedition will be about $60,000, and it will set out next month, under the direction of M. Charnay, a French scientist and explorer, assisted by a few persons from this city. The French government co-operates in the expedition, and pays about one-fifth or one-sixth of the expense. Mr. Lorillard's family is of French origin. Fifty years ago the brothers Jacob, George, and Peter Lorillard were among the foremost merchants of this city. The late Rev. Dr. Berrien, of Trinity parish, wrote a biography of Jacob Lorillard, who was conspicuous for his good works. So was George, whose gift of $25,000 to the Protestant Episcopal Seminary was of the greatest service in its then feeble beginnings. Peter Lorillard was also a free giver to public uses. He outlived both his brothers, and died only a few years ago. All the brothers were shrewd investors in city real estate. George was a bachelor, and eventually his vast estate was divided between his brothers. Peter Lorillard married one of the daughters of Mr. Nathaniel Griswold. She was a New York belle. Mr. Pierre Lorillard is one of their sons, who seems to have inherited the liberal and enterprising traits of his father and his uncles.



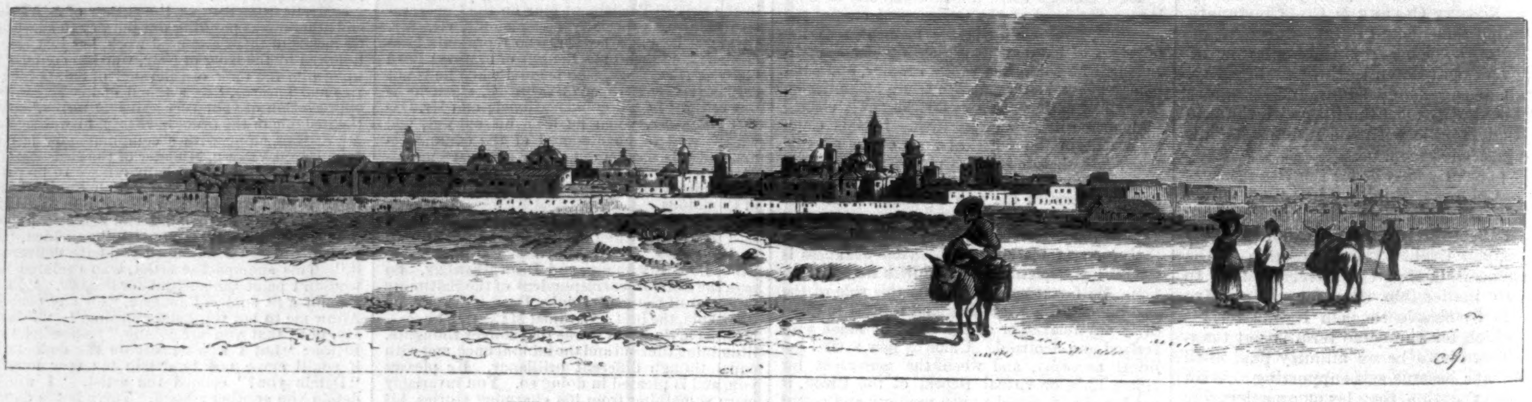
THE ARRIVAL AT VERA CRUZ.



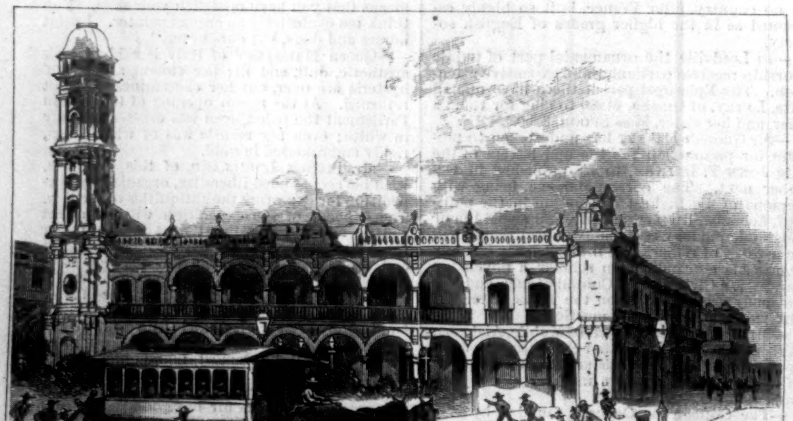
THE DOMES OF VERA CRUZ.



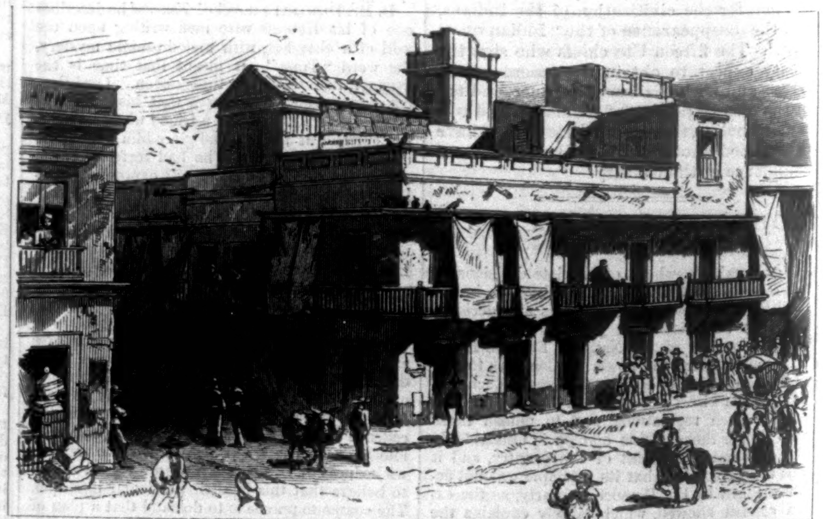
THE ENTRY INTO VERA CRUZ.



THE CITY OF VERA CRUZ—VIEW FROM THE HOT LANDS.



SEEING THE TOWN.



A STREET CORNER.

GRANT'S VISIT TO MEXICO—THE ARRIVAL AT VERA CRUZ.—From Sketches by F. H. Taylor.—[See Page 198.]

NORDENSKJÖLD IN NAPLES.

[Special Correspondence.]

Naples, *February* 21, 1880.

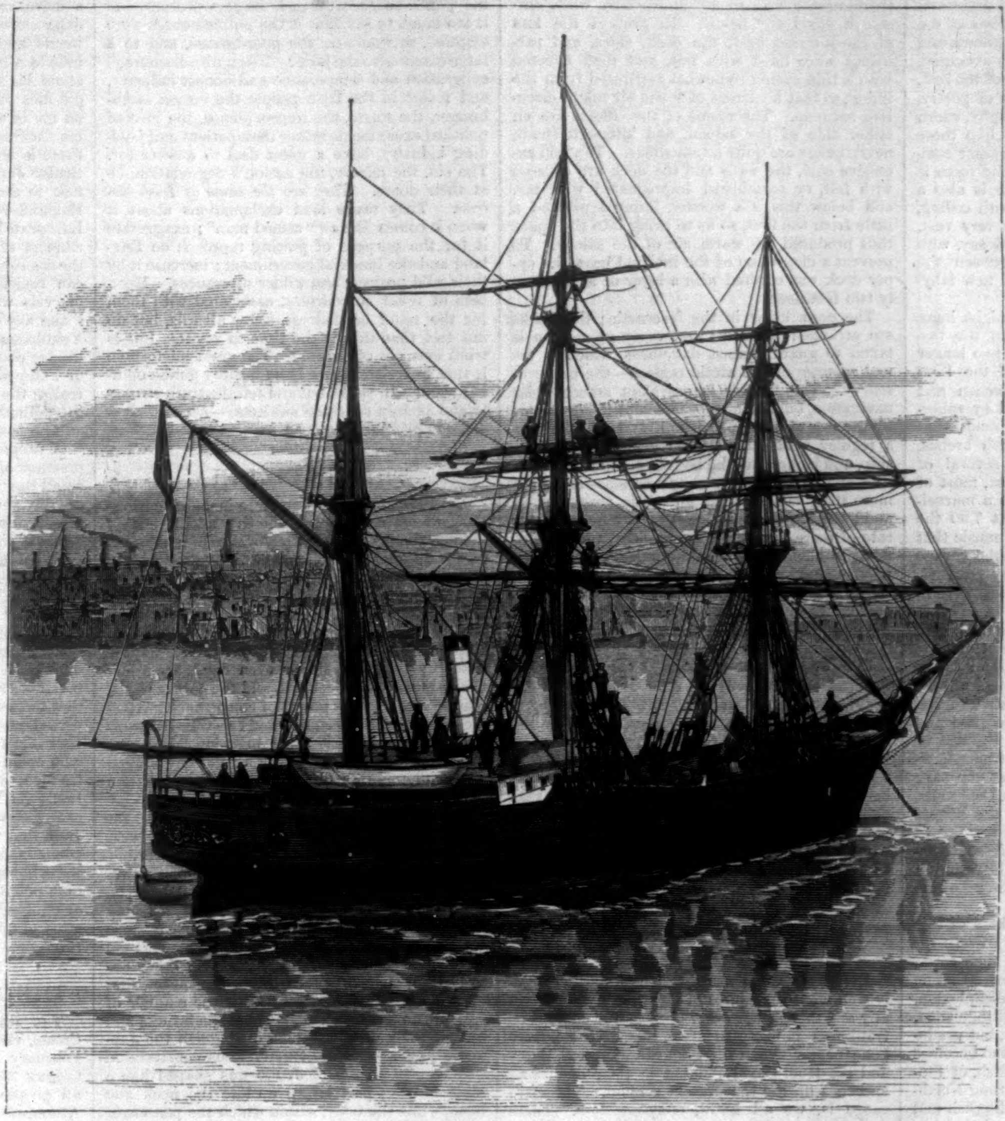
For several days we had been waiting with uncertainty and suspense for the arrival of the long-expected vessel, when at last the Swedish consul received a telegram from Professor Nordenskjöld, stating that the *Vega* had passed the Strait of Messina, and would probably reach Naples the next day (the 13th). The news was posted in different parts of the city, and notice given to the public that three cannon-shots would be fired from a vessel in the military harbor to announce that the *Vega* was in sight. On hearing the appointed signal, about one o'clock, a numerous company proceeded to the arsenal, and waited patiently, in spite of the pouring rain, for the appearance of the distinguished navigators. Within the inclosure of the arsenal a pavilion for invited guests, the dignitaries of the city, and the receiving committee had been constructed of Swedish, Norwegian, and Italian flags, and adorned very tastefully with pots of red and white camellias.

The *Vega* was met several miles from the harbor by the *Laguna*, having on board various notabilities, and the royal representatives who had come from Rome expressly to give the decorations of the Crown of Italy to Professor Nordenskjöld and his party. The Swedish consul, in full uniform, performed the honors, and when the *Vega* moored to a buoy at the entrance of the military port, her arrival was saluted by twenty cannon-shots. Then the commission and the officers of the expedition embarked in the steam-launch, and started for the landing-place, whereupon a long cry broke forth, followed by loud hurrahs from all the vessels, which were gayly decked with banners, while the naval crews presented their oars, and the band played the magnificent Swedish Hymn.

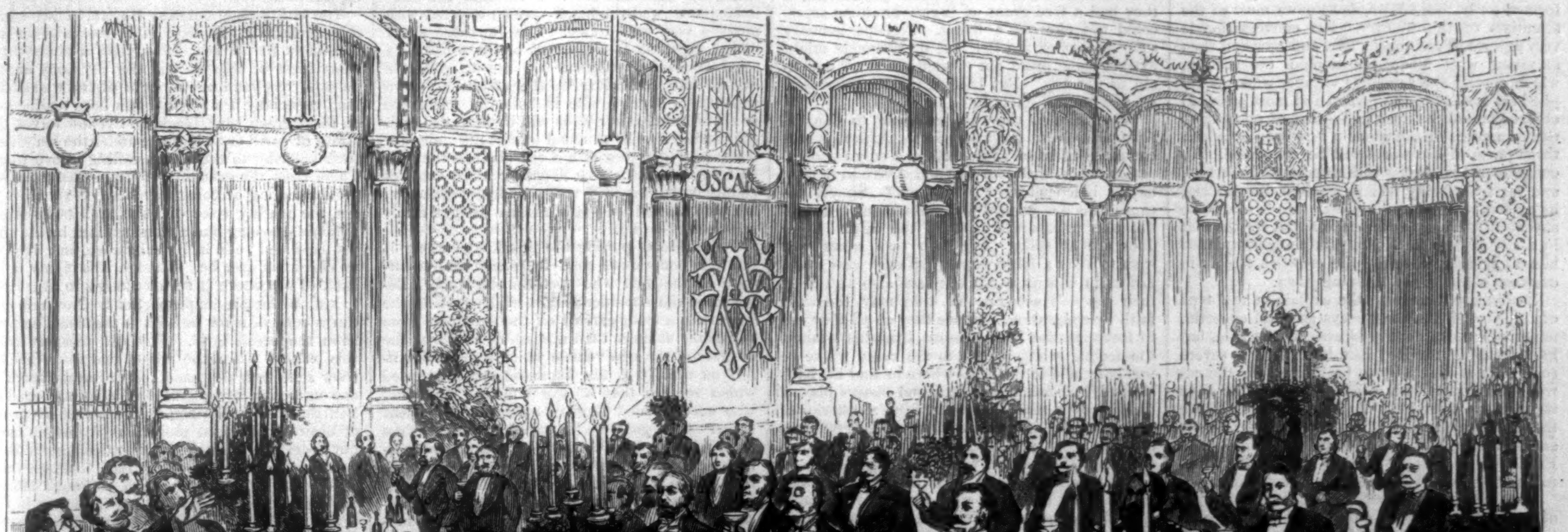
On reaching the pavilion, the Syndic, in a semicircle of invited guests, made a handsome address to Nordenskjöld, and the people applauded and cried, "Long live the *Vega!*" Then Bove, Italy's representative in this glorious achievement, disembarked, and the enthusiasm of the multitude knew no bounds. They clasped his hand, embraced him, and some, in the impulse of feeling, even fell upon his neck and kissed him. It was an indescribable moment, but it quickly passed; the party mounted the municipal carriages in waiting, and started for their lodgings. All along the way they were welcomed with Swedish and Italian flags, and the huzzahs of the citizens. At the Hôtel Royal, where they were to stay, brief introductions were made by the Syndic, and Nordenskjöld and Bove were compelled to appear several times on the balcony and receive the salutations of the crowd in the street below.

On Monday evening, the 16th, a splendid banquet was given by the city of Naples to Professor Nordenskjöld and the officers of the *Vega*. The representation was complete, and included all the civil and military authorities, the university, the magistracy, the press, the commercial classes, the aristocracy, and all the foreign consuls residing in the city. These guests (140 in number) assembled in the elegant parlors of the Hôtel Royal des Étrangers, before passing into the beautiful new hall which was to be inaugurated on this occasion. The form of the table was that of a capital letter M, and at the head was seated the Syndic, Count Giusso, as host, with Professor Nordenskjöld and Prince Teano, president of the Italian Geographical Society, on his right, and Captain Palander, commander of the *Vega*, and Commendatore Cristoforo Negri, the representative of Foreign Affairs, on his left. The other guests were grouped around seven different centres, each of which was occupied by some distinguished person.

The hall where this banquet took place deserves some description, from its unique elegance. Its chief excellences consist in few but harmonious colors, charming adornments, ingenious and precise details, capricious rather than conventional style, and admirable proportions. The whole is covered by a *velarium*, which is an inven-



PROFESSOR NORDENSKJÖLD'S SHIP "VEGA."



THE DINNER TO PROFESSOR NORDENSKJÖLD.

PROFESSOR NORDENSKJÖLD'S RECEPTION AT NAPLES, ITALY.

tion in its execution, and is so artistic that it shows its author to be a most skillful architect. A kind of gallery resembling the windows of the Alhambra serves to crown the arches, pillars, and columns, which are most symmetrically arranged, and form the fundamental decoration of the hall. Passages from the Koran, fragments of poetry, laudatory sentences in Arabic calligraphy, adorn the walls, and produce, with mosaics like those seen at Seville and Granada, a very peculiar combination of Moorish magnificence. The room is not very large, but the architect, who is also a scenographist, has so constructed it with ceiling, porticoes, and gallery that it seems very vast, and as you contemplate it, you could say, with Aben-Hamed, that "everywhere between the arches and ornaments are discovered new labyrinths, new enchantments."

From the velarium, on the festal night, hung the Italian and Swedish flags, and on the two large mirrors at the centres of the two longer sides were painted the monogram of the *Vega* and the names of the Kings of Sweden and Italy. A brilliant light was afforded by spherical lamps and sconces, and the tribunes that overlooked the hall, with their Moorish arches, were thronged with elegant ladies, several of them in full toilet, and with gentlemen, most of whom were in evening dress. It was a marvellous spectacle of gayety and life. At 7.30 the dinner began, enlivened by a band of music that played the new piece composed upon the voyage of the *Vega*, and various waltzes by Strauss. When the Champagne was served, toasts were in order, and the Syndic said:

"I invite you, gentlemen, to drink to the health of their Majesties the King and Queen of Italy and the King and Queen of Sweden, all sovereigns, presidents of republics, and chiefs of governments constituted. As representative of Naples, I am happy to express to the learned and intrepid voyagers who honor us the feelings of admiration of the entire city. Illustrious navigators, we Italians can appreciate what you have done, and the country of Marco Polo, Columbus, and Amerigo Vespucci renders you the honors that are due." (Applause.)

The Syndic was answered by Professor Nordenskjöld, who with much tranquillity and a strong Swedish accent read a short address, which was received with great applause.

A few words concerning the members of this famous expedition are now in place. Professor Nordenskjöld does not appear more than forty, but twenty-two years of navigation prove that he is nearly forty-five. He is of fair complexion, amiable, pleasant-looking, and of distinguished, and at first rather reserved, manners, but gradually grows animated in conversation, and becomes even expansive. His family is Swedish, of Finland, and he speaks French with a strong Northern accent, and discourses fluently in English and German. To his voyages he never alludes, but expresses on every occasion his pleasure in the reception given him at Naples. He is well informed on Italian affairs, and knows most of the scientists of the country. His conversation is very agreeable and instructive, and now and then seasoned with some philosophic observation, which reveals the scholarly voyager who has applied his studies to the vastest and most practical object that can be imagined—that of opening to the commerce of the globe a new way by which three parts of the world will be connected. To compliments he replies with reserve and courtesy, and far from being odd in familiar intercourse, he excites the greatest interest. He is said to be absent-minded, and Cristoforo Negri relates that in a city of Sweden Nordenskjöld accompanied him at mid-day through the crowded streets in drawers, slippers, and dressing-gown.

Lieutenant Palander, the captain, a real type of the Northern sailor, always gay and cheerful, never suffered a day's sickness at the pole, but in traversing the Red Sea he caught a severe cold. He is especially to be praised for the extraordinary skill with which he guided the *Vega* through the polar ice. To Nordenskjöld is due the idea which, like a luminous beacon, shone at Cape Tchelyuskin and Behring Strait, and to Palander belongs the nautical merit of the admirable execution of the perilous undertaking.

The sailors are robust, ruddy, muscular types of the Swedish race, and do credit to their vocation. They are fair-complexioned, sandy-haired, pleasant-faced, good-humored, always obliging and ready, and have ably performed their part in the great work of exploration and discovery.

And now it is time to speak briefly of the vessel which brought the victorious navigators safely to this port, and which has been visited by thousands of people. The *Vega* was no stranger to the arctic regions. Before the voyage which made her celebrated she had undertaken several modest excursions to Jan-Mayen Island and Spitzbergen to fish for *joduc* and sea-horses, but had been always unfortunate. Now, however, she has triumphed, and her name is written in golden characters in the book of fame. She would be called in nautical language a brig, and is rigged in the Northern style, with tall, proportionately stout masts, and strong timbers adapted to resist all weathers, which the seas did not spare her. Her length from stem to stern measures 130 feet, her width 30, and her depth 20. Frame-work, ribs, and supports are of very strong oak, and so closely joined, multiplied, and interlaced as to enable the vessel to endure the pressure of the ice. The interior is still more strengthened with cross-pieces, and the prow is bound with iron so that it can attack ice-blocks of moderate dimensions, and break somewhat the crystalline asperities which might otherwise injure the outer timbers.

The rooms are small but comfortable, and the deck cabin, which was reading and dining room, laboratory and parlor, has a pleasant aspect, and we can imagine it really cheerful when the officers were snugly ensconced there, defying a temperature of 48° below zero outside. The saloon was heated by a powerful iron stove, so that the thermometer rose to 30° above zero, while outside it stood 45° below. To prevent the loss of the internal heat, the deck, sides, and partitions were lined with felt, and then covered with a thin casing somewhat separated from the lining, so that a current of warm air might circulate between. The rooms of the officers are on either side of the saloon, and although small, nevertheless are quite commodious. To avoid excessive cold, the walls and the deck are covered with felt, or pasteboard impregnated with tar, and below this is a wooden lining separated a little from the first, so as to bring into the space thus produced the warm air of the saloon. To prevent a dispersion of the internal heat, the upper deck was covered with a layer of snow nearly two feet deep.

The crew lodge in the forecastle; the bunks are arranged laterally; and every precaution is taken to guard against dampness, which is the real scourge of the arctic regions—the cause of scurvy. This disease is prevalent among polar navigators, but has now been somewhat overcome by the use of fresh provisions, and especially by a regular ventilation of the lower parts of the ship, and by keeping the body in continual motion. The engine is of only sixty horse-power, but is more than sufficient for an arctic voyage, since amid the ice the vessel can hardly move at the rate of more than six miles an hour, for it is difficult to navigate among the movable crystalline masses, and the perilous sand-banks with which those sedimentary lands are encircled as with a crown. Great reliance, however, was placed upon the masts, which are very high, and capable of resisting any weather.

The life led on shipboard was one of the most tranquil and attractive. Who can portray the beauty of the heaven when it is illumined by a vivid aurora borealis, which sometimes, like the lightning, darts from east to west, covering the whole visible firmament? At other times it contracts to a point, revolving about itself, twisting in a thousand ways, unfolding like a flag that flutters in the pleasant evening breeze, and displaying the most beautiful colors of the rainbow, while its magnificence is increased by a very clear sky, where the stars glitter with a pure and vivid light.

J. W. H.

DISTRESS IN IRELAND—ITS CAUSES AND CURES.

Every one who lives in Ireland knows perfectly well what the causes of its chronic distress really are, though not every one has the courage or frankness publicly to state them. None have gone nearer the truth than Mr. James P. Corry and the Hon. David Plunket in their admirable speeches during the present session. The main cause is, we all know, *overpopulation*. There are nearly a million more people in Ireland than its land or its industries can maintain. There are whole districts where peasant proprietors, if they had a free grant of twenty or thirty acres, could not eke out a living. Perhaps industry such as that of the Belgians or Mormons might extract some profit out of acres of stony mountain or wet bog. But Irishmen have never done so, and are not likely to do it.

Why, then, do they not emigrate to Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, where countless acres of virgin soil wait only for occupation, where men can live and thrive in honest, happy independence? *Why not?* Simply because the priests will not allow them. Roman Catholic priests are paid by the head. Their dues are at stake. For their own sakes they wish to keep a large population *adscriptos glebæ*. Let us in charity admit they are also afraid, on their people's account, that they may lose their faith by emigration. Hence they do all they can to foster in the Irish peasant, from his infancy, the feeling which clings to the cabin where he was born, and to the fields where he and his half-starved, half-naked brothers and sisters played. They throw a romance around these mockeries of home, and teach their people that emigration is cruel exile, expatriation, a wicked English device, etc., etc. They talk of "Irishmen's bones bleaching the prairies," and such like rodomontade. Professional agitators, who wish to have large ragged regiments to follow their brass bands and listen to their inflammatory outbursts, who like nothing less than real remedies for useful grievances, encourage the same mischievous delusions. And governments, whether Conservative or Liberal, which think it right and expedient to govern Ireland through the Romish priesthood, and to conciliate political agitators, are simply afraid to apply the only remedy—afraid to promote a scheme of emigration on a sufficient scale—because of the outcry which interested parties would raise. *What will the priests say and do?* is the whispered fear of British cabinets.

Meantime distress goes on and annually increases, and when an exceptionally bad season comes, is naturally intensified; only, however, a question of degree. Then English commissioners come over, go round the country and into the cabins, lift up their eyes and hands at the misery they see, and echo the cry which agitators make. To these the state of things is shocking. But though it may be in this present year a degree or two greater, falling here and there in a severer measure, we, who live in Ireland—who have lived in it for fifty years or more—know that it is always so, and will continue to be so as long as the country is *overstocked*. Why should there not be a movement on the part of all enlightened Irishmen to urge this matter of emigration and its necessity upon the government? Why should not the clergy of the Church of Ireland make also their voices heard? Are we to follow public opinion, or lead and form it?

So far for overpopulation. Then comes a second cause of Irish distress—*overdrinking*. In Cahirciveen, in Tralee, in Galway, in Castlerea, in every town from which the cry of distress comes, the public-houses and their owners prosper. Is it too much to say that if the public-houses were emptied, so would be the poor-houses, and to a large extent also the jails? Those who discourage emigration and temperance and honest industry, and foster in the Irish people the insane earth-hunger, the waste, the improvidence, the love of political excitement, rather than patient and plodding industry, have a great deal to answer for. The sin, the misery, the nation's degradation, lie at their doors. *They are the cause of Irish distress.* They make loud exclamations about it when it comes like an "armed man"; exaggerate it for the purpose of putting reproach on England and the imperial government; increase it by their wild projects and wilder utterances. Members of relief committees, associated with them for the relief of distress, know all this, but do not feel that this is the time to say it. But is truth ever out of season? The great misfortune is that in Ireland there is no healthy public opinion which will speak out and tell the truth strongly and plainly on these subjects.—*Dean Dickinson, of Dublin, in the Irish Ecclesiastical Gazette.*

THE JIN-RIKI-SHA.

Nothing about the Japanese is more curious than the means of locomotion they adopt. Of all the contrivances for the conveyance of human beings from one place to another, the "jin-riki-sha" strikes a foreigner as the most peculiar. As late as 1868 there were few wheeled vehicles of any kind in Japan. "Kangoes," that is, light bamboo chairs, or "norimons," a kind of stunted palanquin—the former carried by two bearers, the latter by two, four, six, or even eight, according to the rank of the occupant and the nature of the road—were the only means of conveyance. After the introduction of coaches and two-wheeled traps by foreign residents, some ingenious Japanese took it into his head to make a kind of enlarged perambulator, drawn by one man. The invention took rapidly. Within a year or two a kango became a curiosity, and norimons were few and far between, while by 1878, it is estimated, there were 40,000 jin-riki-shas in Jeddo and its suburbs.

In appearance the jin-riki-sha resembles a two-wheeled invalid carriage, with shafts, between which the human pony inserts himself, clasping one in each hand. Most of them have some fancy design on the sides or back, while some are of forms both curious and ingenious. Some are to be seen shaped exactly like a Japanese junk, of white cedar, and painted after the manner of real junks. Others embody that quaintness and love of the grotesque which distinguish the Japanese mind. One most marvellous construction seen in the streets of Jeddo was shaped like a bird, the fore part rising up like the neck and head, while the body, within which the passenger sat, was carved and painted so as to represent feathers. The jin-riki-sha is usually very well made, and light and easy. Sometimes the body is lacquered, and the black varnish covered with pictures very well drawn. The Japanese never design anything like the rest of the world. In other countries designers are apt to compose evenly, with something in the middle, and two somethings at each side to balance. Here five or six crows or other birds will be scattered over the carriages so as to avoid uniformity: one, for instance, will appear on a corner, half on the side, half on the back. The Japanese artist can not endure anything like mathematical regularity; but with all their eccentricities, his designs rarely fail to be pleasing.

The mode of pulling the jin-riki-sha along is not less remarkable than the speed and endurance of the men who perform the work. Relieved of the shoulder-weight which forbids the bearers of a chair carried on the shoulders from advancing at more than a shamble or a trot, the drawers of the new vehicle which commended itself so rapidly to the Japanese attain a speed which shames that of the "running footmen" who accompanied English carriages in ancient times. On a good road a speed of not less than eight miles an hour is attained, and this, according to experience, can be kept up a considerable time. The ways of the accomplished drawers of jin-riki-shas are peculiar. As soon as the passenger is seated, the two-legged pony, who generally divests himself of all clothing, showing a body beautifully tattooed, gets between the shafts, lifts the cross-bar which connects their ends as high as his breast, and proceeds to push the carriage along over the flat roads at a great pace. When the journey is accomplished, he prepares for his bath, which, as a usual thing, is sorely needed. The water he uses is generally heated to a point which Europeans would consider scalding. Hot as it is, however, he seems to enjoy it, though, on emerging, his outward cuticle resembles that of a red Indian. The bath over, his next move is to procure about a dozen raw eggs, which he devours most greedily, together with two or three bowls of rice, washed down with tea. After these operations he appears entirely refreshed, and ready for another start.

The jin-riki-sha is patronized by the Japanese ladies as well as by their male relatives, and apparently they are not at all distressed by the exceedingly scanty apparel of the drawers. To European eyes, however, the situation is an amazing one, and we have the following racy description of jin-riki-sha travel from the pen of Mr. Campbell: "I see a lady in full dress—gown, veil, gloves, bracelets, and parasol—gravely seated in a perambulator at Yokohama, going out to visit another lady as calmly as if her Yahoo were a horse. She does not see the grotesque incongruity which makes me stare. The man is clad according to police regulations, but the old man of Japan is strong within him, and his garments flutter loose. He is a cooly, adorned with pictures, an illustrious illustrated edition of a civilized man whose civilization is barely covered by European forms. Such a man takes me out for a drive, and strips to his work, and becomes a Japanese-Greek athlete by folding up his garments and stuffing them under my seat. His hide is a gallery of Japanese art: serpents coil about his legs, a tortoise is on one arm, an eagle flies on the other, or a Japanese lady smiles on me in some theatrical attitude from between his shoulders. There is no indecency in nudity; there is none in the style of art; but this particular Japanese phase of Eastern civilization is new to the traveller who comes westward from England over America, through another phase of European life. The East and the West in a jin-riki-sha are utterly astounding and grotesque to the amateur artist. I throw away the pencil. I can remember astonishment, and look at such marvels when I shut my eyes; but I can not make any one in England see what every one in Yokohama sees every hour of the day with the utmost placidity. I can run away to the Vatican, or Pompeii, or up to the middle of Finland, and realize the magnificence of the human form and the ugliness of all manner of clothes; but clothes and no clothes in one carriage tend to laughter."

A proportion of the honor due the Japanese inventor of the jin-riki-sha is dissipated when we recall the "vinaigrettes" of Paris in the early part of the seventeenth century. The chair upon wheels, invented by a person of the name of Dupin, was vigorously opposed by the men who kept for hire chairs that were carried. The name given to the new conveyance by its inventor was "brouette," or "roulette"; but the derisive appellation of "vinaigrette" was attached to it, though it is difficult to see in what respect the wheeled box was more like a vinaigrette than one borne upon poles between men's shoulders. Dupin, the inventor, found means to contrive them so that they did not jolt as much as might have been expected, and he was able to conceal this art so well that for a long time he was the only person who could make them. The first attempt to introduce the brouette was made in the time of Louis XIII., but the proprietors of the earlier chairs opposed them successfully for a time. In 1669 they were allowed to appear, and came into common use some two years subsequently. They were, however, it is believed, confined to the common people of the city, the gentry using carriages or clinging to the old style of chair. These brouettes obtained a certain footing in England, but references to them are few.

"THE CITY OF THE TRUE CROSS."

The sea-port city of Vera Cruz (or the True Cross), visited by General Grant and his party February 18, was founded on the hot sands by Cortez 360 years ago. He made its port, and all people have accepted his decision as final. Attempts have been made to erect other coast towns into the chief port of entry, but so far have utterly failed. It is still the commercial capital of Mexico.

The late Bishop Gilbert Haven, in his admirable articles on Mexico, published in Harper's Magazine in the year 1874, gives a picturesque description of this ancient city. "Look at it," he says, "as you draw in sight of the wished-for land, especially if a Norther has been tossing you on those green, blue, black, and yellow waves, the strata of earth or of herbage under the sea giving their coloring to the waves rolling above them. There rises the grandest of peaks that ever saluted a coming or going traveller. Sixty miles at sea, the mighty cone of Orizaba lifts its white pyramid, glowing like a cloud smitten by the sun, yet fixed and solid in its substance, and light as no cloud can ever be. Though it is eighty miles back of the shore, it seems almost to stand out to sea, so vast are its proportions. Nowhere else can a cone of snow be seen so clear and so near from the ocean level. You can measure from this watery plain the whole enormous height. Over seventeen thousand feet it stands forth in one unbroken eye-glance. It looks as broad as half the western horizon. All that broken group of brown and green mountains forms its base, but from their centre, as if gathering all their voluminous folds into one, it rises fourteen thousand feet, sheer and unbroken, without a mountain companion. From the sea the effect is felt of the whole four miles of height. You measure from that green below you to that white above, and take in the whole impression at once.

"But Orizaba can not keep us from nearer and more human views. A little island lies a mile or two from the shore. A bank runs half way out to the island. Only a small channel separates the two, which could be easily connected by a breakwater, if wisdom, will, and wealth could unite in the enterprise. The island is the famed fortress of Ulloa, not so named from the ululations of its occupants, although they have suffered successive defeat from every attacking foe.

"Behind it, and between it and that spit of land, is the harbor, what there is of it, of Vera Cruz. And not much of a harbor is it. The Northers drive their seas clean over the solitary mole, and the few craft that lie near hasten to up anchor if possible, and get into the outer and safer sea. If such a sea happens to be on, there is no communication between vessel and shore, not even between the fort and the mainland. Passengers have been kept a week in a steamer, unable to land, and friends visiting the ship, or passengers the shore, have failed for days to make their desired connections with the mole or vessel. At the head of the solitary wharf is an open plaza, without shade of any sort, famous chiefly as the spot where Santa Anna lost his leg in some gunnery practice against a home or foreign foe. That lost leg helped him on to fame and power as completely as the famous cork leg pushed forward its fortunate (for a time) possessor."

A short street, clean and white, as all the streets are here, leads to the little central plaza, and its tiny park of perpetual verdure. The Australian gum-tree, the magnolia, the Chinese laurel, broad-leaved cacti, and lilies of many sorts, cool the fervid air by their dark and glossy greens. Even the flaming flower of the oleander can not make them look uncomfortable.

On one side of the square, and opposite the Hotel Diligiencias, is the Governor's palace—a building of some pretensions, two-storied, with ample halls and broad verandas, and many suites of rooms. At the time of Bishop HAVEN's visit it was being tinted with pretty washes without, and cleaned and garnished within, because the President of Mexico was on his way to open the railroad from the commercial to the national capital. The cathedral, big, and not beautiful, ranges along the southern side, and stores, chiefly occupied by Germans, stretch coolingly under the arcades on the northern side. Sippers of coffee sit under the arches before the hotel, and a few loungers dodge away from the sun around the plaza, shifting themselves to its shadiest benches.

Vera Cruz has practically but two streets, one going straight back from the mole to the centre of the wall that swings like a semicircle around the town; the other is the string of this bow, whereof the former is the arrow. It stretches along its diameter a distance of about a mile. The arrow is about a third that length. Two or three streets cross this at right angles, going from the Gulf to the wall, and two others are parallel to Central Street, as it is called, but behind it, and shorter, subtending arcs of lesser area. What makes the city such a victim of the yellow fever is a question often asked and rarely answered. It is not its filthiness, for a cleaner town one never sees. Its block-stone pavements are washed nightly, and shine like Philadelphia door-steps. The big black buzzards act as scavengers, and clouds of them occupy roof-top and church cross, dipping into the street for stray morsels, and in their ravenous hunger would make nothing of boots and hats and old clothes, if the people ever had such articles to cast away. So far as garbage and dirt are concerned, no city has less fault to find with its fathers.

No more is the affluent and decaying vegetation the cause, or quiet inland waters and semi-waters, such as lie in lagoons and rich but deadly deltas about New Orleans. The bluffs about Vera Cruz are sand, and sand only. You must go miles from the city to reach fat and fatal lands. The walls are thought to be the chief source of the evil, for they shut in the air, and prevent its sweeping easily through the town. They are twenty feet high, and of no value whatever as a protection. They only increase its perils, for they necessitate bombardment in all civil wars, which ruins roofs and churches and destroys lives, while they do not prevent the capture of the town. If they also cause the pestilence, then there is every reason for their removal.

There are no vehicles worth mentioning to be seen in the streets of Vera Cruz, save two or three American horse-cars. The horse and its rider, and the donkey and Indian with their packs, are the only representatives of carts and carriages. The levées of the great are attended by ladies and gentlemen on foot. The cars, drawn by two mules each, run up and down Central Street every few minutes, carrying you the mile or less for twelve and a half cents. There are very few passengers. In one of these humble conveyances the General and his company were taken to see the city.

CLEARING THE TRACK.

OUR engraving on page 200 shows one of the many dangers to which the hardy fishermen on the Newfoundland Banks are exposed. At certain seasons of the year the fog hangs so heavily over the Banks that the approach of the great steamers plying between Europe and America can be perceived only when they are right upon the fleet of fishing-boats, and then ensues a lively scramble to get out of their way. Sometimes the warning comes too late for some luckless fisherman, who is fortunate if the huge vessel which has run down his frail craft can pick him up and carry him to port. Scarcely a season passes that some casualty of this kind is not reported, and it is probable that many a fishing craft that is never heard from after leaving port has come to an end in this way.

THE GEM PUZZLE.

THE above is one of several names of a puzzle which is now attracting such a degree of popular attention as may perhaps excuse an attempt to throw a little light upon its mysteries.

The puzzle is composed of fifteen small square blocks, numbered from 1 to 15, and contained in a square box large enough to hold sixteen such blocks. The blocks are to be placed in the box irregularly, and pushed about until they are in regular order, as shown on the cover of the box, thus:

1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	

A little practice will enable any one to push the blocks about with such dexterity as always in a very short time to bring the blocks either into the above position, or else into one which differs from it only in having two of the blocks in the bottom row transposed, the other of the three being in its right place. This position may be called the 13–15–14 position, and the great problem with many puzzle-players is to find a method of reducing it to the position required. No difficulty is experienced in reducing it to a position which may be called regular, such as:

	1	2	3
4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15

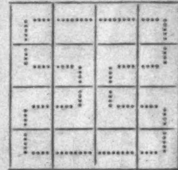
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	
12	13	14	15

1	3	6	10
2	5	9	13
4	8	12	15
7	11	14	

4	8	12	
3	7	11	15
2	6	10	14
1	5	9	13

A kind of puzzle is made with round blocks, with which, when the last of the above positions is reached, by giving each block a quarter turn, and then giving the whole box a quarter turn in the opposite direction, the required position may be successfully simulated; but with the square blocks, with which only the puzzle ought to be made, most persons will be ready to confess that from the 13–15–14 position they can not do the puzzle, and they are usually disposed to maintain that it can not be done. What are they to say, however, when met, as they sometimes are, with the reply, "You say it can't be done; but I know better, for I have done it several times"? That a thing is difficult does not prove it to be impossible, and however you may be convinced in your own mind that if it could be done at all you could do it yourself, this sort of reasoning has little weight with an opponent who thinks that he knows that he has actually done what you declare that no one can do.

To meet this difficulty let me attempt to prove that from the 13–15–14 position the puzzle can not be done, by a rather more demonstrative method. The dotted line on the accompanying figure shows how the places in the box may be considered as composing a complete circuit, and it is evident that by following this line the blocks may be pushed all round the box, and the vacant square be left in any part of the box without altering the order in which the blocks are arranged, or, so to speak, *strung* upon the line. But whenever a block is moved otherwise than along the dotted line, the order is changed, the block moving passing in one direction or the other either two or six of the other blocks. Now when a block passes any number of other blocks, the result is the same as if it changed places with each of such other blocks successively; for instance, if the block 1 passes the blocks 2 and 3, changing the order 1, 2, 3 to 2, 3, 1, it is the same as if 1 had first changed places with 2 and then with 3. Any move, therefore, must be equivalent to either two or six changes, each change being between the block moving and one of the blocks passed, and any number of moves must be equivalent to an even number of changes, because the sum of any number of twos and sixes must be an even number. Conversely, an odd number of changes, each between two blocks, is not the equivalent of any number of moves. But to reach the required position from the 13–15–14 requires but one change, between 14 and 15, and one is an odd number. Hence that result can not be obtained by any number of moves. *Q. E. D.*



The principle that the result to be obtained by any number of moves must be equivalent to an even number of changes furnishes a method of determining whether the problem is or is not soluble from any given position. For example, in the following position the following changes are necessary to get each block into its proper place, every change bringing one or two blocks into place: 1 and 13, 13 and 3, 3 and 5, 5 and 6; 2 and 11, 11 and 4; 7 and 14; 8 and 12; 9 and 10, 10 and 15—ten changes in all: *ergo* the puzzle can be solved. It will be seen that the changes are divisible into sets, separated above by semicolons. In practice, in applying this test it is only necessary to count the numbers in order thus: 1, 13, 3, 5, 6; 2, 11, 4; 7, 14; 8, 12; 9, 10, 15; and rejecting those sets that contain an odd number of numbers, if there remains an even number of sets the problem can be solved, and *vice versa*.

13	11	5	2
6	1	14	12
10	15	4	8
3	7	9	

A correspondent of the New York *Herald* proposed an ingenious method of determining the question to which the above method is applicable, namely: Consider the box as divided into sixteen squares, colored black and white like a chess-board, and let the proper square be left vacant. If then, he says, the sum of the numbers on all the blocks upon squares of one color be even, the problem can be solved; if odd, it can not be solved. But this test is open to the objection that it is as likely to lead to a false conclusion as to a true one.

No one but a child, I suppose, after becoming acquainted with the principles of the puzzle, can derive amusement by playing with it in the manner first proposed, placing the blocks in the box irregularly, getting them in order, upsetting the box, and repeating the operation; but the puzzle is capable of variations which may serve to prolong its use. The first of these which I would suggest is that, instead of the regular order, we should try to bring them into the shape of a magic square, the sum of the numbers in every row or diagonal being 30, whether such row or diagonal contains four blocks or only three and the vacant square. Another variation is to try to reach a position in which from each number to the next higher is a knight's move—two squares in one direction and one in another. A third is from a given selected position to try to reach the regular order in as few moves as possible, either counting single moves, each of one block one place, or combined moves, as where two or three blocks are pushed in the same direction at the same time. I shall conclude with some examples of this last way of using the puzzle:

15	14	13	12
8	11	10	9
4	7	6	5
3	2	1	

POSITION 1.—To be solved in 72 simple or 28 combined moves.

15	14	13	12
11	10	9	8
7	6	5	4
3	1	2	

POSITION 2.—To be solved in 82 simple moves.

2	1	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	15	14	

POSITION 3.—To be solved in 28 simple moves.

HOME AND FOREIGN GOSSIP.

THE twenty-fifth anniversary of the accession of the Czar of Russia to the throne was celebrated in St. Petersburg and in other Russian cities on March 2. Disturbances had been apprehended, but the day passed peacefully, the Czar receiving warm congratulations from his subjects. The following day, however, an attempt was made in the open street, at St. Petersburg, to kill General Melikoff, chief of the new Supreme Executive Commission. A man named Vladetsky fired upon the general while he was alighting from his carriage at his residence in Grand Morskaia Street. The bullet passed through the folds of General Melikoff's cloak, but he escaped injury. The assassin attempted to fire a second shot, but he was prevented by a blow from the general, and was immediately arrested. Grand Morskaia is a fashionable promenade, and was crowded with people at the time of the attempted assassination, so that Vladetsky approached within a few feet of General Melikoff without causing any suspicion. He was immediately imprisoned in the fortress, and the following day was tried by a court-martial, and sentenced to death. During his examination he was insolent in language and demeanor, and declared that General Melikoff would be killed by some of his comrades, although his own attempt had failed. On March 5, Vladetsky was taken from the Fortress to the scaffold, where he suffered the extreme penalty of the law.

If there be one annoyance to the thrifty housekeeper more aggravating than any other, it surely must be to find her blankets or other articles of woollen fabric riddled by pestilent moths, which she had fondly hoped had been carefully excluded from her presses or trunks by a liberal—perhaps profuse—expenditure on camphor, spices, or tobacco shreds. The Quartermaster-General's Department of the United States Army having tried every known specific against the ravages of that insect, which have cost the government hundreds of thousands of dollars by the destruction of bales of army clothing, believe now that they have found a remedy in carbolized paper, manufactured under a patent by Messrs. Campbell, Hall, & Co., of this city, whose name is sufficient guarantee that the paper they offer for sale will do all that is claimed for it.

Some signs of cleaner streets are visible. The brigade of street sweepers are giving their attention to the lower part of the city, which has long been neglected. If some familiar piles of dirt and rubbish are missed by down-town business men, they will not mourn over the loss. But what about the report recently made to the Pilot Commissioners that the Street-cleaning Bureau is dumping refuse in Westchester Creek, upon which $10,000 was lately expended in dredging?

New York has a prospect of having a Horticultural Hall. At a recent meeting of the Horticultural Society the long-discussed enterprise of building a hall took a definite form by the appointment of a committee to select a suitable site for the building.

A large number of the leading wholesale druggists in the country have united in declarations that an injustice was done to a worthy American industry by the repeal of the duty on quinine, while allowing all the heavy taxes to remain on the raw materials consumed by manufacturers. The matter is to be brought before Congress again.

Considerable excitement was aroused in the Spanish capital not long ago by the discovery that the oratory of the Church of Espiritu Santo, in the central part of Madrid, had been robbed of its plate, vases, pictures, ornaments, etc. The altar and tabernacle had been profaned, the eucharist cast upon the floor, and the "poor-boxes" broken open.

According to statistics collected by the *Insurance Chronicle*, $353,018,255 worth of property has been destoyed by fire in the United States during the last five years.

The announcement made by the British government that Parliament would be dissolved on March 23 was somewhat startling to many of her Majesty's subjects, and the forth-coming elections will be likely to arouse a lively contest. The present Parliament entered upon its seventh year on March 5—an almost unprecedented age for an English Parliament, only two previously having had a longer term. This Parliament has almost uniformly been subservient to the interests of the Ministry, the Conservative majority seldom falling below sixty, and sometimes being as high as 125. During the session of Parliament there have been sixty-four deaths among members, thirty resignations, twenty-one promotions to the House of Peers, five promotions to the bench, and five appointments under the crown, so that there have been numerous elections to fill vacancies.

Driven from home by the famine which has swept over their own country, many Hungarians have sought our shores. Within a few weeks past about seven hundred of these people have landed at Castle Garden, most of whom are almost entirely destitute. Employment has been found for many of them in the Pennsylvania mining districts.

About three hundred men were thrown out of employment by the recent destruction of the works of the Danforth Locomotive and Machine Company, at Paterson, New Jersey. No satisfactory explanation was given as to the origin of the fire, and so it was referred to spontaneous combustion.

Dog shows are growing more and more popular. The one which is to open in this city on April 27, under the auspices of the Westminster Kennel Club, promises to be the largest bench show ever held in this country. It is thought that there will be over fifteen hundred entries.

The St. Gothard Tunnel will not be equipped with rails before August, about which time it will be opened for traffic. It is to be lighted by gas, and being straight, will ventilate itself by a strong current of air passing from end to end.

Just before M. De Lesseps left New York for Washington, a dinner and reception were given him at Delmonico's by the merchants of the city who are engaged in commerce between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. About two hundred guests were present.

Part Second of the Brinley Library will be offered for sale on March 22. The catalogue will give a fair idea of the richness and value of this remarkable collection of books.

March brought a snow-storm more speedily than many expected. The bursting buds gave promise of such an early spring that it was rather chilling to the feelings, as well as to the buds, to see the ground white with snow. A Boston weather observer states, however, that for forty years past there have been but two instances when snow has not fallen in the month of March.

A French paper thus burlesques the "bashful reporter":

"A French statesman and *littérateur* having granted an hour and a half to an interviewer, the gentleman of the press said, at the conclusion of his visit, 'Thank you for your courtesy; and may I call again to see you?'

"'Certainly; I shall be pleased to have you.'

"'Thanks; and, oh, would you mind leaving word that if you are not at home, I may go through your library, in case I want to verify any statement from your books or papers?'

"'Wh—why, of course. No, I'll do better than that: I'll have a latch-key made for you; only when you have to come at night, make as little noise as possible, so as to avoid waking any one up.'"

The striking spinners of certain mills in Fall River, Massachusetts, after causing much loss and trouble to themselves and their employers, discovered that their employers were disposed to be just and liberal with them, and had really been doing better by them than they knew. So they returned to their work. But the damage to all concerned is not so easily repaired.

An institution is about to be opened in Atlanta, Georgia, under the name of "The Abyssinian Library." It is for the use of the colored people, who, by a custom which is stronger than law, are excluded from the public libraries in many Southern cities. This enterprise is not only a novel one, but, from the fact just mentioned, commends itself to all friends of the colored race.

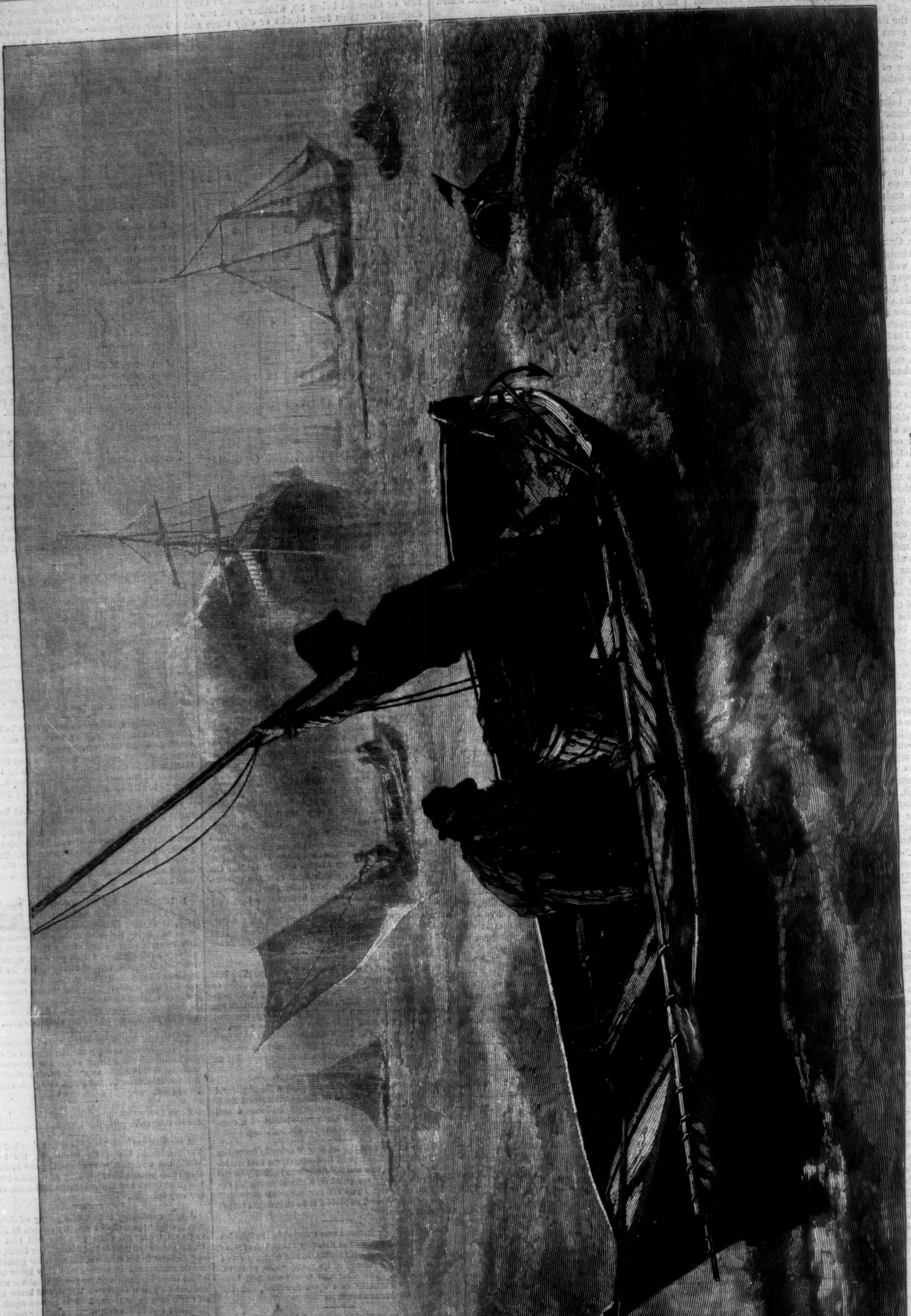
It is said that the introduction of American machinery by the shears manufacturers of Sheffield, England, is causing dismay among the operatives, who were but lately the most arrogant of strikers. At a late meeting of the trade society they offered the employers a reduction of fifteen per cent. upon the best hand-made shears, and of ten per cent. on all other grades of hand-made shears. But the manufacturers can not now recede. They have found American competition driving them out of their own home market, besides easily diverting foreign trade. They must keep up with the times, or abandon their business.

The United States consular agent at Gloucester, England, has written to the State Department of a distemper known as "sheep rot" which has appeared in that vicinity, and is likely to cause much suffering. The disease originates in dampness and poor and insufficient food.

Rumor says that the Jablochkoff electric burners in the Avenue de l'Opéra, Paris, are to be replaced by gas.

A magnificent new house is now being built in the Via Nazionale, Rome, for Ristori, by her husband. While the workmen were preparing the foundation, they came upon a large quantity of ancient bronzes—beautiful Greek and Roman statuettes—some of which are very valuable.

A very good story is told of a young minister, who was invited to preach in a country church in Pennsylvania on trial. An older preacher told him that it would please the people to quote a little Latin, Greek, and Hebrew in his sermons, taking it for granted they would understand it, when really they knew nothing about those languages. The young minister was puzzled, as he was a native of Wales, and knew nothing of those languages himself. But he was equal to the demand; and in his first sermon, having made a quotation from the Scriptures, he said: "This passage, brethren, has been slightly altered in the translation; it is only in the original Hebrew that you can grasp its full meaning;" and he gave them the passage in good Welsh. They liked it, apparently, and presently he gave them some Welsh as Greek, and then some more as Latin. Then he was going to give them the Chaldaic version in Welsh, when he saw a Welshman sitting by the door, almost bursting with suppressed laughter. The preacher did not lose his self-possession, but instead of the Welsh quotation he was going to give, said, in Welsh, "For goodness' sake, my friend, don't say a word about this till I have a chance to talk with you." The Welshman never betrayed the secret, and the congregation called the preacher to be their pastor. Query: Who did reveal the secret, the young preacher, or the old one who gave the advice?



CLEARING THE TRACK—ON THE BANKS IN A FOG.—From a Painting by M. J. Burns.—[See Page 199.]

MAKING SNUG FOR THE NIGHT.—Drawn by S. G. McCutcheon.

NEVER ALONE.

THE summer sun shone on them. They were two
Whose lives had been combined for many a year.
In youth they paled and blushed as lovers do;
Now no caress brought aught of shame or fear.

"What gem," she asked, "of all our garnered wealth
Is dearest to you in an hour like this?
What brings you most of soul and spirit health
In the unnumbered treasures of our bliss?"

Softly he bent to kiss the lips that spoke.
"Sweetest of all the joys my life has known
Is that with thee I have had naught to cloak;
Never in any thought have been alone;

"Never in any act. Thy gentle power
Hath bared the very secrets of my breast,
Till leaning on thy heart in every hour,
I have no life but that by thee possessed.

"Tempted and fallen, I have felt thy hand
Raise and sustain me. Sweetheart, love, mine own,
This is the dearest joy our lives command,
To know and feel we can not be alone."

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

[See Illustration on Page 204.]

THERE is no official record of any law having been enacted by civilized governments for the protection of animals from cruelty until July, 1822, when Richard Martin, then a member of the English House of Commons, presented his famous bill, which, after some slight amendments, was passed by that body.

Two years after the passage of this act the present Royal Society was organized in London, which for more than fifty years has gradually been crystallizing the public sentiment of Europe, until now nearly all the countries on the Continent have incorporated similar laws in their legislation, and in all of these formidable societies have been created for their enforcement.

It is true that previous to the Martin act the common law offered a quasi protection, but then it was only in the sense of *property*, wherein the question of humanity was totally ignored.

Along with the advancing spirit of civilization, however, assisted by the persistent labors of the Royal Society to that end, was awakened a keener sense of obligation for the rights of the inferior creation, and from being regarded only as merchandise, they now enjoy all the legal protection comprehended in the statutes against misdemeanors.

It is not to be anticipated that the killing even of that most valuable and useful of animals, the horse, even when attended with circumstances of the most barbarous character, will ever be recognized by human law as murder. The inexorable requirements of journalistic space forbid expatiating on the legal aspects of man's responsibility to animals, but a few curious instances of judicial prosecutions against brute offenders may be cited, if only to exemplify the one-sided justice which prevailed in the Middle Ages with regard to them.

It is almost incredible to us that in the Middle Ages the forms of legal procedure should have been invoked and made applicable to the offenses of the brute creation. It not unfrequently happened that a child was devoured by a pig. On such occasions the animal was incarcerated in a prison of the state until the day of trial, when the public prosecutor read the accusation, witnesses were examined, and on being found guilty, the pig was condemned to death by the judge, which punishment consisted in being strangled, and hung by his two hind-feet to a tree.

From the thirteenth to the sixteenth centuries the archives of justice are replete with these proceedings, and their absurdities were enhanced sometimes by dressing the condemned animal in human costume for the occasion.

In 1266 one of these executions took place at Fontenoy-aux-Roses, near Paris; in 1394 another at Mortagne; and from that time until as late as 1572 they were of frequent recurrence, and always attended with the most solemn ceremonials.

At length Philip de Beaumanoir had the courage to declaim against these monstrosities, basing his opposition on the ground that the brute was not conscious of its offense, and that justice was established to avenge crime on those only who could comprehend the signification thereof, and cited at the same time, in support of his claim, the twenty-eighth verse of the twenty-first chapter of Exodus. From that time brute executions ceased, and the owner was fined, and the animal killed in the ordinary way.

Probably the mechanical difficulty attending the hanging of offending insects prompted the intervention of the Church, which fulminated its anathemas against the destroyers of the crops, fruits, and other similar property. The effect of these spiritual condemnations is not reported.

In 1863 the writer of these lines, prompted by the merciless treatment of animals which he witnessed in a northern country of Europe, but especially of horses and donkeys, resolved to initiate a reform on his return to America.

Obedient to this resolution, he immediately set himself to work in enlisting the support of many leading citizens of New York, and in the winter of 1865–66 a very comprehensive statute was passed by the Legislature, and soon thereafter the charter of the present American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was procured—the first institution of the kind in this hemisphere.

It was a graceful act of justice on the part of the Legislature which gave the laws to the State, that in the midst of a bloody and fratricidal war it paused long enough to consider the hereditary wrongs of the inferior animals, and to decree hereafter and forever a limit to them—a natural and appropriate sequence to the emancipation of the slave.

It is needless to dwell upon the beneficent consequences resulting alike to mankind and to the lower animals from this humane and civilizing policy, for they are obvious to the most casual observer of cause and effect.

The history of this blessed movement, which is not tainted by the reproach which is so often associated with benevolent enterprises, such as selfishness and sectarianism, has already been given to the world through the press; hence further reference is believed to be unnecessary; but there is one portion of the record which will never be known to any one but to him who initiated the work, to wit, the spiritual and physical suffering its early years inflicted on its originator.

Reforms usually are of tardy growth, but it will ever be a just cause of pride to the American people that this merciful revolution in public sentiment, which required half a century to bring to its present status in Great Britain, has been reached in this country in the comparatively brief space of fourteen years. During that period thirty-five States and Territories of this Union have inscribed these laws upon their statute-books, substantially the same as those first enacted in New York, and each succeeding year adds to the number from the few which still remain unassociated with this benevolent confederacy. The most casual and indifferent spectator fails not to recognize the altered treatment of that patient and devoted friend of our race, the horse, and that abuse of him is no longer the rule, but the exception. Thoughtlessness was once a prolific source of cruelty to that paragon of animals, as well as to others, nor was this obliquity of perception confined to the poor and ignorant, but was a conspicuous characteristic of the cultured and the wealthy as well. Numerous gentlemen, noted for gentleness and philanthropy, have been heard to exclaim, "I once, either through thoughtlessness or neglect, occasioned pain to animals, which now, since the subject has been brought seriously to my mind, it would be impossible for me to repeat."

Calves, which were once bound by the legs and thrown into a jolting wagon, on top of one another, like so many bags of grain, are now carried standing, and in convenient carts, and it is not long since one was seen standing in the crate protected from the cold by a blanket!

Instances of heartless beating and overloading are unhappily not wholly suppressed; but when they do occur, it is a pleasant augury of the future to note how every citizen resents the outrage as though it were a personal wrong.

On more than one occasion the Legislature of this State has appropriated an entire evening for the sole consideration of an act affecting the rights of animals. And it is a beautiful spectacle to behold the courts of justice everywhere vindicate, by their long and patient investigations, the omnipotent truth that the quality of mercy is not partial in its application, but is alike the property of every creature that can suffer and die.

The moral effect of all this is self-evident. The man who of yore gave loose reins to his passions in his treatment of his horse, his ox, or his dog, once that he is brought to reflect and experience the sentiments of pity for his dependent animal, is from that moment a better being, and his wife and children, if he have them, as well as his fellows, share the benefits of the new-born instinct.

Figuratively speaking, mercy to the inferior animals is the lowest stone in the foundations of civilization and religion, and no superstructure can be securely reared where it is absent.

HENRY BERGH.

[Begun in HARPER'S WEEKLY No. 1203.]

A CONFIDENTIAL AGENT.

By JAMES PAYN,

AUTHOR OF "AT HER MERCY," "BRED IN THE BONE," "BEGGAR ON HORSEBACK," "WALTER'S WORD," "UNDER ONE ROOF," "HIGH SPIRITS," ETC.

CHAPTER XII.—(*Continued.*)

"HOW MUCH CAN I RAISE ON THEM."

OF course she had not forgotten, during all this tittle-tattle, the terrible circumstance that had given rise to it; namely, that her husband owed twenty thousand pounds, and that she had to pay it; but having once appreciated the fact, and notwithstanding that she was filled with dismay and indignation because of it, her mind was so practical that it at once turned to those means of discharging the liability which Patty had unconsciously suggested to her. Accepted bills, as the lawyer had ventured to remind her, must be met when they become due; whereas one can pay out one's husband at any time. If, as she was but too well convinced, there was no escaping this frightful obligation, her diamonds must be parted with, and it became at once a matter of absorbing interest with her to know what might be raised upon them. She knew that her late father had retained them because they would not "fetch their price"—that is, the price he valued them at; but she had a vague notion (her ideas, indeed, about everything were vague, though she had so keen a perception of her own interests and of what she wanted) that the value of precious stones was liable to great fluctuations. It was possible, she thought, that the parure might now realize twenty-five thousand pounds, though some years ago it had failed to do so; and the person who was most likely to give her information upon this subject was Mr. Signet.

Without, therefore, saying a word more to Patty about the catastrophe that had befallen her, and even perhaps regretting that she had said so much (which, indeed, as Fate ordained it, she had presently good reason to do), Lady Pargiter ordered her carriage and drove to Poulet Street.

The jeweller was out, but expected back again shortly, so the distinguished visitor was ushered into the parlor, as the apartment was termed in which Matthew Helston worked.

He rose and bowed; Lady Pargiter nodded with patronizing carelessness as though a crossing sweeper had thanked her for a penny, and became enraptured with a cuckoo clock. Then it suddenly struck her that this "person"—as she always termed the parent of Madge, and possible transformer of the present methods of locomotion throughout the civilized world—might be useful to her in her projected inquiry, as a check upon his employer. The latter would, no doubt, attempt to cheapen the parure, while Matthew, having no personal advantage to gain by misrepresentation, might possibly tell the truth about it.

"Oh, by-the-bye, Mr.—I forget your name—"

"Helston, madam," observed Matthew, gravely.

"To be sure; it is you who have the charge of my diamonds, is it not? Now I wish to ask you, as one doubtless acquainted with such matters, what you think they are worth."

"I always understood, madam, that the guarantee given by Mr. Signet—"

"Yes, yes, I know that, of course," she interrupted, impatiently; "that's a mere nominal sum, fixed so high perhaps in order that more may be charged for taking care of them.—You don't think so?" For Matthew had shrugged his shoulders, and smiled, it must be confessed, a little scornfully. "You think they are worth the money, then?—perhaps more, even?—well, now, how much more?"

"Indeed, madam, I did not mean to imply that. The value of a thing is often very wrongly defined as what it will fetch, but in the case of precious stones it is a tolerably correct statement. To one who is an admirer of such things, your diamonds would no doubt be an object of immense attraction—"

"What rubbish! who does *not* admire them?" broke in their proprietress, viciously.

"Nay, I only meant that some persons have a greater passion for precious stones than others—have less taste than others, if you will have it so; but however universal may be the admiration of them, very few persons have the money to buy them, and especially such specimens as those of which you speak. Their worth in a practical sense must therefore depend upon the existence of an exceptional purchaser."

Lady Pargiter drummed with her fingers upon the cuckoo clock with a vehemence that would have alarmed that imprisoned bird had he not been made of sapphires. "It seems very difficult," she said, "to get a plain answer to a plain question. Well, supposing the existence of such a purchaser, would twenty-five thousand pounds, at the present price of diamonds, be too much to ask him?"

"Not perhaps too much to *ask* him, madam," returned Matthew, dryly. "In the case, however, of such a costly article we generally find some sort of compromise to be necessary. However, here is Mr. Signet, who will be able to give you much better information than I can on such a topic."

"Sorry I have kept you waiting, Lady Pargiter," said the jeweller, entering with an apologetic smile. "Have you shown her ladyship the cuckoo, Helston?" (for her hand was still upon the clock, and he thought she might have taken a fancy to it). "That bird is a marvel."

"I am not come about any such trifle," returned Lady Pargiter, haughtily. "My call is upon a matter of great importance—in connection with my diamonds."

"They are all right, I conclude, Mr. Helston?" inquired the jeweller, sharply, but by no means so sharply as of yore. Ever since his visit to Cavendish Grove his behavior to his assistant had been much more gracious, for a reason which Matthew suspected, and, I am sorry to say, which made him dislike that gentleman even more cordially than before.

"I have no doubt they are all right, as you call it," observed Lady Pargiter, severely. "My object in coming here, Mr. Signet, is to know at what price you value them."

"What price? Dear me! do I understand that you wish to part with them?"

"I don't say that at all, sir; I only want to know, for a particular reason of my own, how much I could get for them if I did wish it."

"Well, my lady, that is a serious question to answer, so to speak, right off the reel. If there was any very wealthy personage at present looking out for such a parure, there is no knowing what he might give; but we might wait for years and years for such a customer."

"You know of no such person, then, at present?"

"No, my lady."

"Well, if you were to buy them yourself, to what price would you be prepared to go? I apply to you because you are acquainted with their history and all about them. You were consulted about them, if I remember right, by my late father."

"Yes, my lady, yes. Some years before his death we endeavored to come to some sort of arrangement with him; but he asked too much—a great deal too much. The diamonds are very fine ones, no doubt; I examined them on that occasion very minutely; but trade is no better now than at that time; rather worse. We could make no advance, I fear, upon our then offer."

"And what was that?"

"It was fifteen thousand pounds."

"Fifteen thousand fiddlesticks!" exclaimed Lady Pargiter. "Why, this person here—your assistant—has just confessed to me that they are worth twenty-five thousand pounds."

"Excuse me, madam," observed Matthew; "you asked me whether that sum would be too much to ask for them of an intending purchaser, who was, moreover, exceptionally wealthy. If you remember, I declined to say what they were worth, and for the best of reasons, because I did not know."

"Well, your story at all events, and Mr. Signet's, are very different," returned her ladyship, angrily. "Fifteen thousand pounds, indeed! Why, then, do you suppose my poor father made me pay probate duty upon nearly twice as much for them?"

It was quite true that the late Mr. Ingot had specified the diamonds in his will as being worth twenty-five thousand pounds—a circumstance which had always astonished Mr. Signet. For although that might have been their value in the testator's eyes, he was not the man to have swelled the revenue of his country at the expense of his own flesh and blood, unless compelled to do so. If, on the other hand, he felt the jewels could never be disposed of at anything like their just value—and since, moreover, he knew there could be no necessity for his daughter's parting with them—it was rather a good plan than otherwise to have estimated them so highly, though she had to pay for it; since that very fact, to a great extent, established their value, and added another attraction to her in the matrimonial market.

It was rather difficult, however, for Mr. Signet to explain these views to Lady Pargiter herself; so he confined himself to saying that he supposed it was the late Mr. Ingot's stern sense of duty which had caused him to value the diamonds for probate duty at what he considered their just worth.

"And yet you who know that," answered Lady Pargiter, "and who for your own purposes—that is, to obtain more money for their custody—have always valued them at the same price, when I come to say, 'What will you give for them?' reply, 'Fifteen thousand pounds.' You expect to make ten thousand by the transaction. Talk of usury! I consider your conduct most discreditable." And with that her ladyship drew her train through her arm with a jerk (for she was not going to sweep such a man's floor for him), and walked out of Mr. Signet's establishment.

"Well, I never!" exclaimed the indignant jeweller. "She, the daughter of old Ingot, to dare to talk to me of usury! Of all the vile, cantankerous, grasping women that I have met with in my whole experience, that Lady Pargiter is certainly the worst."

"Well, after to-day I suppose we shall see no more of her," observed Matthew, with a sigh of relief.

"More of her? Of course we shall see more of her. For some reason or other she wants to sell her diamonds, and as she won't like to go to any other house in the trade about them, she'll be here again to-morrow: she will find money a little tighter by that time. Usury, indeed! I'll pay her out—so help me Pluto."

This was a professional way Mr. Signet had of swearing; his impression in so doing was that he was appealing to the God of Riches, who might very well be supposed to be the guardian divinity of a gentleman of his calling. His mistake, however, was only in the letter, not in the spirit, for what he thus swore he always stuck to. Some cynics say that though the worm will turn if trodden on, he will not turn if you tread on him again and pretty smartly; but socially this is an error. Not even the Lady Pargiters of the earth can afford to be offensive to their fellow-creatures. Moreover, that great firm of jewellers which had its embodiment in the person of Mr. Signet was not a worm, except generically—just as a boa-constrictor may be called a worm.

CHAPTER XIII.

CEDAR VILLA.

IN these gross, material days it is the fashion to say, and perhaps to believe, that self-interest is at the bottom of everything; but if so, it is in many cases so far down that there is no seeing where it lies; and it is certain that there are other factors, at least equally powerful, which affect our social relations with one another. With respect to Matthew Helston and his employer, for example, it was a curious fact that their common dislike to Lady Pargiter drew them nearer together than their common interests had ever been able to do. Her ladyship had not returned to Mr. Signet's establishment, as he had predicted, and that failure in prophecy as well as of justice (since he had consequently been unable to "pay her out" for her insolence in the manner proposed) had greatly imbittered that gentleman against her; while his own occasional though infrequent errands to Moor Street kept Matthew's wrath quite sufficiently warm. They were more hateful to him than ever, since his wife's condition was becoming a greater source of anxiety to him, and he was the more loath to leave her at such untimely hours. What, on the other hand, tended to set Matthew against the jeweller was the latter's obvious desire to establish himself on a footing of some intimacy in Cavendish Grove. Uncle Stephen's arguments had succeeded to some extent in setting at rest his nephew's suspicions of Mr. Signet's motives in presenting the agate ring, but he could not understand "why the man should be always calling at No. 7."

This was a little unreasonable, since "the man" had only called twice—once in order to leave his card after dining there, and once to leave a bouquet for Mrs. Helston. The supposition, it was true, in the latter case, was that the bouquet had been meant for Amy, and that since that young lady was from home—being engaged as usual in her professional duties—he had been compelled to present it to her sister.

Then on the top of that had come an invitation to the whole family to spend "a long day" at his villa on the Thames.

The season for such enjoyments was almost over, but a few days of that "Indian summer" which occasionally visits our shores happened to be with us, and Mr. Signet had expressed a very cordial hope that his friends in Cavendish Grove would take advantage of it. The proposal was submitted to some discussion among the little party, and was strongly opposed by Matthew; but on the whole they were in favor of accepting the invitation. Amy, indeed, had suggested that she should stop at home—a plan much approved of by her brother-in-law; but, on the other hand, in the present state of Sabey's health, she was unwilling that her sister should be deprived of her society; while Uncle Stephen, in his humorous way, had pronounced such a design as out of the question. "I have heard of Hamlet being performed without the prince," he said; "but without Ophelia, never. A pretty sort of reception we should get at Mr. Signet's, if we came without you!"

Mr. Barlow, too, who had received the news of that present of the ring with much good-humor, and a complete indifference to the motives of the giver, arising from his own sense of security, strongly advocated the acceptance by the whole party of Mr. Signet's offer. "It will be a very pleasant experience, and the little outing will do your sister good, Amy," was what he had said to his beloved object, and his words, of course, had had weight with her. She had never herself thought Mr. Signet had "meant anything," and somewhat resented the view her people had taken of his attentions; and perhaps she expected that their host's behavior on this occasion would show their suspicions to be baseless. There was not a grain of coquetry in her disposition; she did not use any arguments, even to herself, as some of her sex would have done, respecting this man "old enough to be her father," and the bare idea of whose making love to her was a joke: she would not have thought it a joke had she credited it at all, and she put down what had happened to the honest desire of Mr. Signet to make himself pleasant to the family, and to his ignorance of how to set about it.

I am afraid that, on the contrary, the whole affair tickled Uncle Stephen's sense of humor vastly. Of all Mr. Signet's guests he would have been the one who looked forward to getting most entertainment out of the expedition, had not a circumstance occurred at the very outset of it which caused a change of views, or, in other words, "put his back up." A messenger arrived at No. 7 from Mr. Signet a few hours before they were to start, offering the use of his carriage, "which might be more convenient for the ladies."

However well meant this offer might be, Mr. Durham felt it to be "an overt act" of patronage on the part of their host, or, as he more curtly expressed it, "just like his infernal impudence." Mr. Durham had bespoken a wagonette for the excursion, which would accommodate them very well, and he wrote back to say so; he thanked Mr. Signet for his consideration, but the time was too short to alter their arrangements. But the mischief had been done. The old recluse had been put in that antagonistic frame of mind with respect to their host of which on the former occasion Amy had been apprehensive. He said to himself, "This fellow would have sent his carriage for Amy, in order that she may know by experience how nice it would be to have one at her own disposal"; but in reality he was annoyed upon his own account. It may seem strange that Mr. Signet, who had so much *amour propre* himself, did not recognize the danger of wounding it in the case of other people; but unhappily his case is not exceptional. And of course he suffered for it.

Cedar Villa, so called from a splendid specimen of that tree which overshadowed half the lawn, was really a charming residence in the summer months; in winter, of course, like all other riverside houses, it was damp and dreary; but with the sun on it, lighting up the cheerful rooms, with their open French windows, and reflecting the glitter of the stream that flowed beneath them, it was bright and pleasant enough. The furniture was a little showy, perhaps, and the walls and ceilings had a somewhat too liberal allowance of gilt on them, but there was really nothing to justify Mr. Durham's reflection that the villa looked like a branch of the establishment in Poulet Street.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

GETTING MARRIED.

WHY women are so often deficient in the art of accommodating themselves to a higher social sphere, is a question we do not stop to answer. Enough has been said in uttering the voice of warning on a matter that invites the most earnest foresight. Happily there are cases in which new and onerous positions are filled with a tact that is truly admirable. Though not of an exalted origin, some women may be said to be ladies by nature. They take kindly to any rise in the condition of their husbands. Much depends on the upbringing. Jack Scott and Betsy Surtees set up in the Matrimonial with a cordial unison of feeling. Not particularly well off at first, they were for a time contented to sup on a pennyworth of sprats. When, by his talents, Jack rose in the world, Betsy rose with him, for she was of respectable parentage, and brought up with a style of good manners. Accordingly, when Jack was made Lord Chancellor and raised to the peerage, no one acquitted herself better than the Countess of Eldon.

If one class of women fall short in their tastes and habits, fully as numerous a class go so far in their attempts to exceed in dress, expenditure, and frivolity as to damage the character of the Matrimonial. Men of moderate means are afraid to marry, lest they should be chained for life to women who might ruin them by their unregulated and costly indulgences. We are inclined to think that this dread more than anything else prevents men from marrying in early life, when they are as yet unable to encounter an expensive system of housekeeping. They are doubtless wrong in being so intimidated. Using caution in making their choice, and avoiding certain categories of social life, they need be under little apprehension. The whole sex are not to be confounded with beings with whom it would be dangerous to strike up an intimacy.

We can not pass over an unfortunate source of unhappiness in married life. It is neglect on the part of husbands. They become absorbed in professional pursuits; often they are long absent from home, or they give themselves up to exclusively selfish amusements, just as if they were still bachelors. In such circumstances their unhappy wives feel as if they had been tricked into a contract that has not been fulfilled. When the woman vowed to "obey," the man promised to "cherish," which at least infers personal attention and honorable treatment. The husband plainly breaks his promise. He has fallen short of his duty. He may cheerfully pay all the money required to carry on the domestic concern; but that is only a simple obligation. It can not be called cherishing. It demonstrates no affection; neither does munificence in pin-money. A check on a bank is not equivalent to the love and kindness which were reasonably expected from the being to whom she had confidingly resigned her independence. What a heart-breaking sequel to a youthful dream of felicity! We can hardly bring ourselves to picture the dissensions that frequently occur, with finally an unseemly and incurable rupture. Perhaps not quite finally. The Divorce Court, statements in which newspapers revel, and weeks of town-talk may close up the rear, and add one more to the hideous stories of outrage on the decencies of married life.

There are other causes for regret from having impetuously rushed into the Matrimonial. Beyond all, on one side or other there may be serious constitutional infirmities. People take great care to match horses and other animals, in order to maintain a pure and vigorous lineage. Little or no care is taken on this score when contracting a scheme of matrimony. A young man heedlessly marries into a family known to be affected with some hereditary disease, never reflecting until too late on the consequences of his act. He forgets that in a physical as well as in a mental sense the sins of the fathers are apt to be visited on the children. With his eyes open, he takes to his bosom a wife who will in all likelihood end her days in an asylum, and whose progeny can scarcely fail to share in her deplorable infirmity. Where is the comfort in having a family defective in mental qualifications? You may endow them with the fortune realized by years of successful industry; but from the fatal taint we speak of, it is out of your power to bequeath to them brains or common-sense.

> "Can troubled or polluted springs
> A hallowed stream afford?"

Indisputably they can not, and the fact should be borne in mind in the matter of courtship. Let not the institution of marriage be charged with the calamity. Your own rash conduct in forming the alliance is at fault. We may be sorry for you in the trying circumstances, but the penalty of indiscretion is inevitable.

The mishaps that disfigure the married state afford no proper ground for throwing reproaches on the Matrimonial. After all that bachelors can allege in vindication of their celibacy, marriage on the whole constitutes the happiest, the most satisfactory and salutary, condition in which either man or woman can live. Nature makes no provision for celibacy, which from necessity may be submitted to, and is not inconsistent with piety and certain peremptory calls of duty. What pleasant recollections of unmarried female relations who made endless sacrifices in doing good, and who merited, if they did not receive, the liveliest tokens of gratitude! Looked at comprehensively, however, celibacy in either sex is a species of oddity, and is usually avoided where practicable. It is not well for man nor for woman to be alone in the world. The common destiny is to run in pairs, each of the two to help the other. Such is the rule to be fairly dealt with. We certainly know by experience that bachelors in their old age lead a helpless and cheerless existence, and generally die unmourned by any one—and the richer they are, the less is the lamentation.

The Vicar of Wakefield tells us that he chose his wife as she chose her wedding gown, which was on the principle of selecting one that would wear well. If in the article of marriage you fix on a flimsy material, take the consequences, and blame nobody but yourself. The market is open. Do not be in a hurry. Yet do not put off the time because you happen to be unable to start on a high scale of worldly wealth. Early marriages may not be always commendable; but wait, wait, waiting to reach some imaginary standard is—all other things being equal—by no means sound policy. Burns pathetically sings,

> "Oh, why should Fate sic pleasure have
> Life's dearest bands untwining,
> Or why sae sweet a flower as love
> Depend on Fortune's shining?"

Advice in a matter of this kind goes for very little. Every one takes his or her own way. No doubt it is distressing to see, as you sometimes do, young people making sacrifices to be married, and landing themselves in semi-starvation. We have heard of a lady who earnestly advised Jane, her female attendant, not to marry, as the step would surely end in misery. The girl in reply said she was tired of being a servant, and wished to rest her bones. "Well, Jane," asked the lady, some time afterward, "have you rested your bones?" "Yes," replied Jane, rather dismally; "but it has been my jaw-bones!" Without due precaution, risks like this may have to be encountered in the matrimonial lottery.

Ordinarily marriage inspires to exertion, and thus brings its own special reward. In the choice of assistants for some official duty, the married man is for the most part preferred. He has given hostages to Fortune for his good behavior. Besides this peculiar advantage, he experiences the pleasure of seeing his

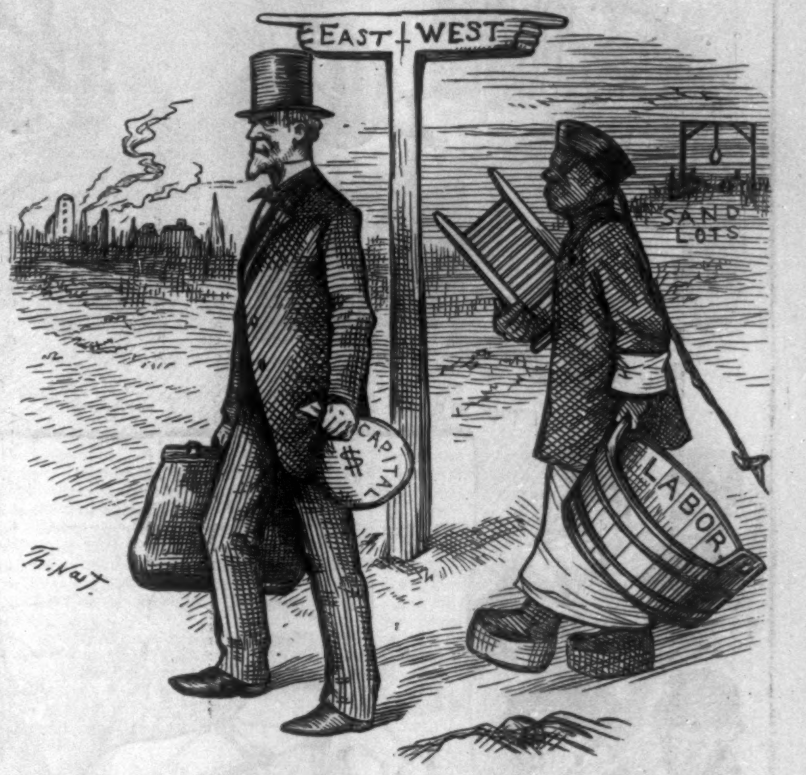
> "Children run to lisp their sire's return,
> Or climb his knees the envied kiss to share."

We can picture nothing more charming than a scene of domestic felicity like this, nor one more calculated to nerve to enterprises on which rests individual and national prosperity. In married life there are likewise pleasures of memory held precious though the hearth be partially desolate. When, by the visitation of Providence, children are swept away, and one of the parents has perhaps been left in a widowed condition, the survivor recalls in imagination many tender incidents in the past which no celibate can possibly experience:

> "When time, which steals our years away,
> Shall steal our pleasures too,
> The memory of the past shall stay,
> And half our joys renew."

Who, then, has the heart, with heedless levity, to depreciate or speak contemptuously of the Matrimonial?

HUMORS OF THE DAY.



EASTWARD THE STAR OF EMPIRE RETURNS.

"REALLY, my dear," said poor Mr. Jones to his better half, "you have sadly disappointed me. I once considered you a jewel of a woman, but you've turned out only a bit of matrimonial paste." "Then, my love," was the reply, "console yourself with the idea that paste is very adhesive, and will stick to you as long as you live."

Young women often keep their lovers by tears. "Yes," says Grumwig, "love, like beef, is preserved by brine."

VISITOR IN ST. PETERSBURG. "What is the name of this river?"
GUIDE. "The Neva."
VISITOR. "What, Neva?"
GUIDE. "Well—" (*Here the wires broke down.*)

A French newspaper points out how the passion of gambling is shown in England, so that even in wedding notices it is necessary to state that there were "no cards."

A sailor is not a sailor when he is a board; a sailor is not a sailor when he is a shore; but he must be either ashore or aboard: therefore a sailor is not a sailor.

ADVICE TO BEGGARS—Begon(e).

When a man is crusty, is it right to describe his temper as tart?

When is a ship like an actor?—When she's anchored.

"Humph!" said a young gentleman, at a play with a young lady, "I could play the lover better than that myself." "I would like to see you try," was the naive reply.

Jones says his wife is the most thrifty woman he ever knew. "Why, sir," he says, "she has made ten bed-spreads during the last two years; made them herself, sir, out of the patterns she collected in her shopping tours during that time."

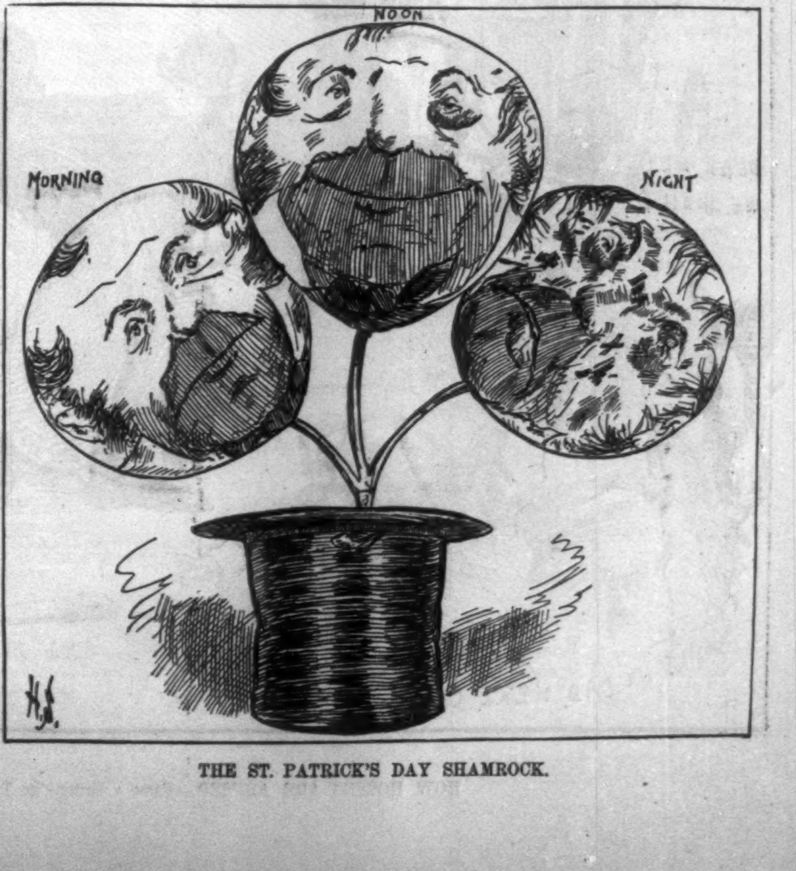
A Californian's matrimonial advertisement winds up as follows: "Fortune no object, but should require the gal's relations to deposit one thousand five hundred dollars with me as security for her good behavior."

INDIGNANT WIFE. "If I had known you were coming home in this condition, I should have gone to my father's."
INEBRIATED HUSBAND. "Hic—would you? I'm awful sorry didn't shend you word—hic."

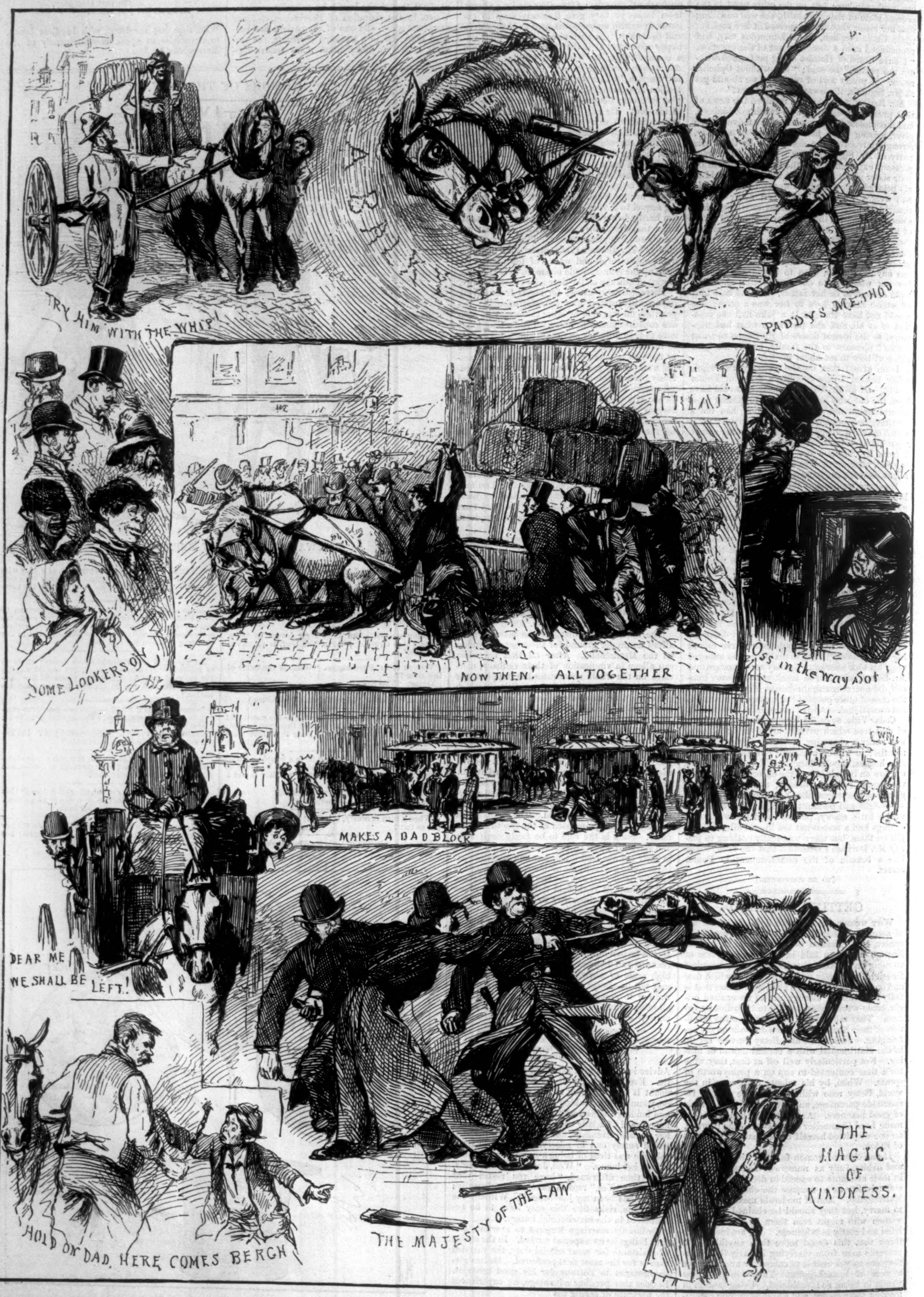
A Western editor says one hug is worth a dozen love-letters, and they can not be introduced as evidence in a breach-of-promise suit either.

It is leap-year, of course; but, after all, it doesn't look very well for a young lady to go home at two o'clock in the morning after sparking her beau.

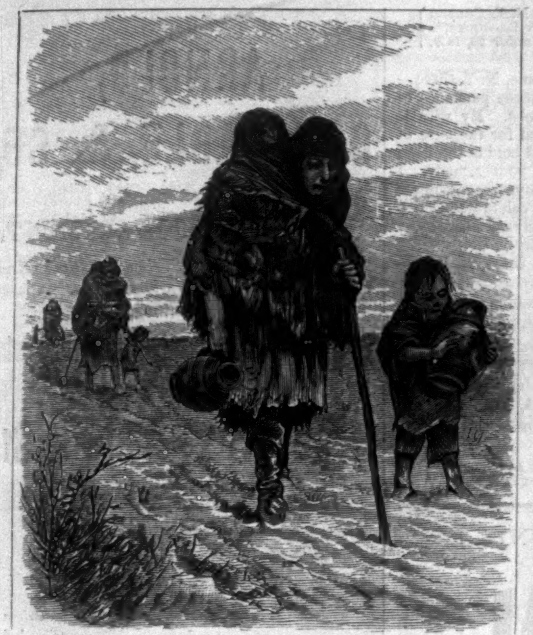
A Jerseyman tells us his wife was kicked in the jaw by a mule. "Did it hurt her?" "Bless you, no; but the mule broke his leg, and had to be shot."



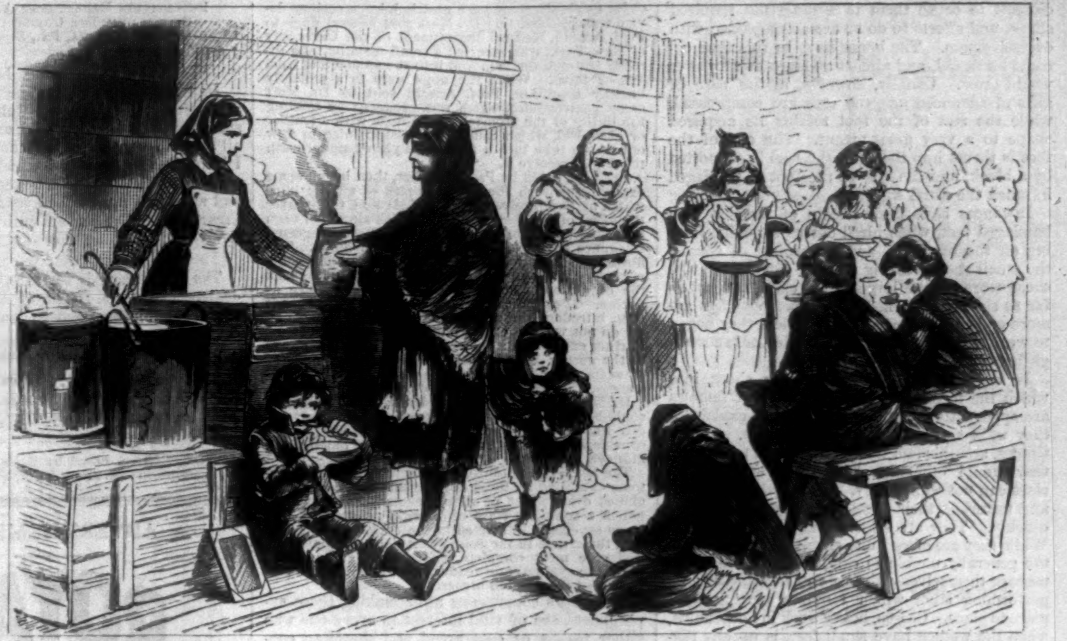
THE ST. PATRICK'S DAY SHAMROCK.


TRY HIM WITH THE WHIP!
A BALKY HORSE
PADDY'S METHOD
SOME LOOKERS ON
NOW THEN! ALLTOGETHER
Oss in the way Sot!
MAKES A BAD BLOCK
DEAR ME WE SHALL BE LEFT!
HOLD ON DAD, HERE COMES BERGH
THE MAJESTY OF THE LAW
THE MAGIC OF KINDNESS.

HOW HORSES ARE ABUSED.—From a Sketch by Thomas Worth.—[See Article "Cruelty to Animals," Page 202.]



GOING TO SCHOOL THROUGH THE SNOW.



A SOUP KITCHEN.

THE FAMINE IN SILESIA.

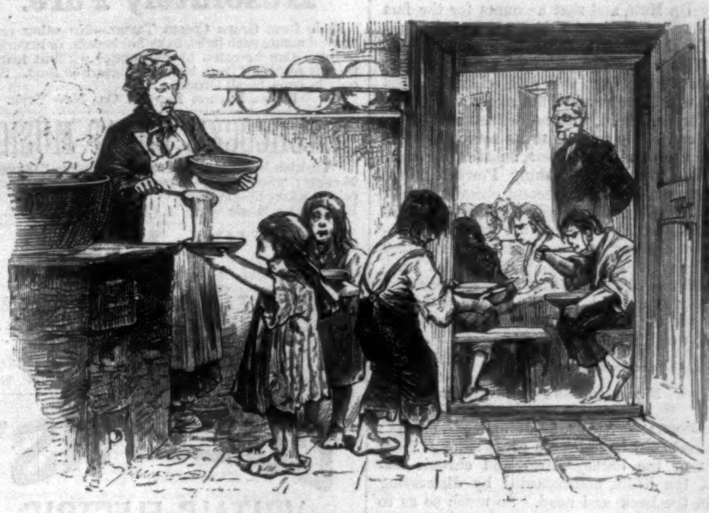
The pathetic sketches on this page will remind our readers, in the most graphic manner, that Ireland is not the only country that demands our sympathy on account of the suffering inflicted upon its inhabitants by the failure of last year's harvest. In that little corner of the German Empire known as Upper Silesia, a mountainous, sterile region, the peasantry are to-day enduring all the horrors of famine. In the best of times they live upon what in more prosperous countries would be deemed starvation rations. Each family raises a few potatoes, cabbages, and other vegetables, a pig perhaps, and a few of the better off may own a cow. But their agriculture is of the most primitive kind. Their implements are of the rudest and most clumsy construction, and what would be called a good harvest among them yields only the bare necessities of life. Few of the peasants know the taste of meat; black bread, made of coarse rye flour, potatoes, and "schnapps" form the staple of their diet. The wonder is that they manage to live at all.

With small opportunity for earning money, and a large part of their scanty earnings going for taxes, they are unable to get ahead. The utmost thrift will not enable one to lay up money for a "rainy day" if there is none to be laid up. Every penny spared by the tax-gatherer goes for rent, clothing, and such food as they do not raise on their unwilling soil; and consequently, when an evil year comes, like the last, the poor peasants have nothing with which to keep them from starving. But for the charity of the higher classes, and of the people of more favored regions, the destitute Silesians would perish by hundreds for lack of food.

The principal cause of the present distress in the valley of the Oder is the disastrous overflow of that river. Since 1876 the waters of the Oder have risen above the banks every year, and spread ruin and destruction over a wide region of cultivated lands. The first inundation was unusually severe. In February, 1876, an ice blockade occurred in the Oder, and the water, being set back, overflowed upward of thirty villages. This inundation continued for two weeks. All the grain in the region was destroyed, as well as the provisions stored in barns and cellars. Long-continued inundations followed in 1877 and 1878, in the months of June and July; and finally, in June, 1879, came the worst overflow of all. The waters reached a height never before known. Heavy rains fell through the whole of July, which ruined everything which the inundation had spared. The poor peasants thought another flood had come. The potato crop was utterly destroyed. The grain was hardly worth cutting. Winter set in early and with unusual severity. It seemed as if all the elements of nature were combined for the destruction of the peasantry.

Nothing but the most energetic action on the part of the authorities, aided by private charity, prevented the entire depopulation of the suffering districts. Vigorous measures were adopted to feed and clothe the poor, and to check the progress of disease, which threatened to sweep them away. The poor school-children suffered terribly. Many of them had long distances to travel through deep snow in order to reach the school-houses; and it was at length determined to feed and lodge them there, that the little things might be spared the terrors of the wintry roads. They were supplied with warm clothing, and everything was done to make them comfortable.

The German papers are discussing various projects designed to prevent these destructive inundations. It is calculated that dikes and other works could be erected where the Oder is most likely to overflow its banks, that would cost less than the annual contributions made to alleviate the misery caused by the flooding of the country. Meanwhile, however, the distress is great, and the necessity for relief pressing. The wail from Ireland has been so loud that we have hardly heard the cry from Silesia, where the suffering is none the less appalling. Our German fellow-citizens have already organized movements to raise funds in aid of their distressed countrymen, which are worthy of sympathy and support.



FEEDING THE SCHOOL-CHILDREN.

LITTLE FEET IN CHINA.

Nobody knows the origin of the custom of compressing the feet of little girls in China. Some say that an empress by the name of Tak-ki, during the Shang dynasty, originated the custom. She had club-feet, and prevailed upon her husband, in order to conceal the deformity, to cause all the ladies of his court to compress or bandage their feet. In this way they were made to appear like hers. Others say that the practice began in the time of the Tang dynasty, which flourished about one thousand years ago. Puang-hi, a favorite of Ting-haiu-chio, according to these, inaugurated the practice by first binding her own feet. By degrees the people imitated her example, until the custom prevailed in all the provinces of the empire.

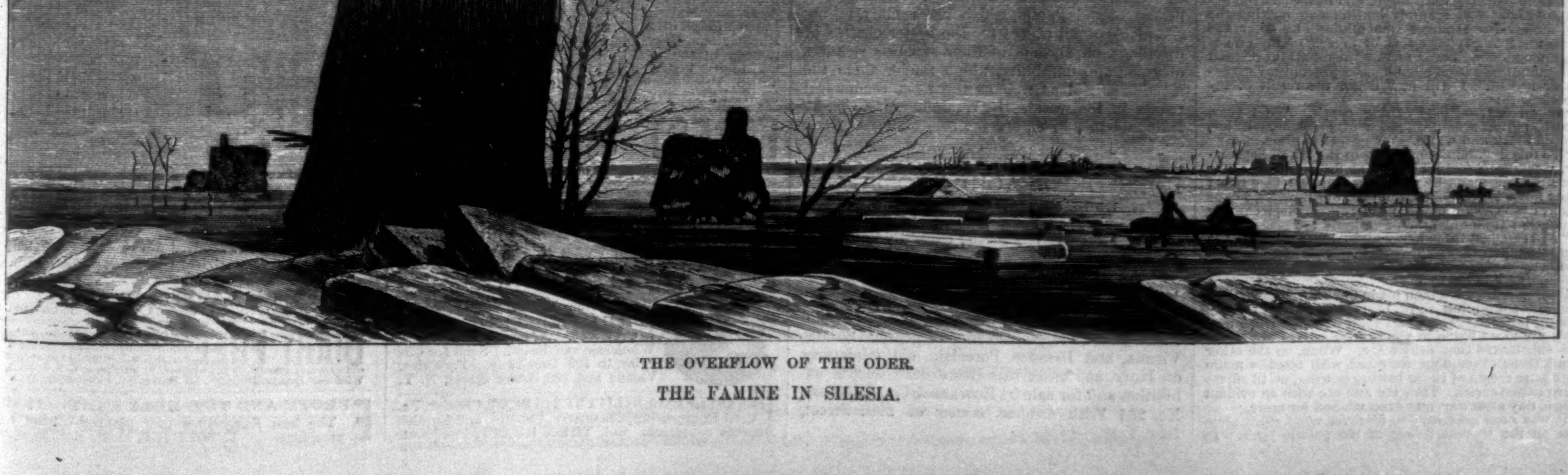
The feet of girls, usually when about five or six years of age, are compressed by bandaging, to prevent their farther growth, and to reduce them to the form and appearance so much admired by the rich and literary people of China. For this purpose the foot is extended at the ankle, the fleshy part of the heel is pressed downward and forward, and the entire foot is carefully wound with a long bandage from the ankle to the extremity of the toes and back again. It will be readily understood that this process checks the circulation of the blood, and retards or entirely prevents the further growth of the foot. The smaller toes are naturally, or rather unnaturally, crowded together, and somewhat bent under the foot. The foot is prevented from spreading out as when the weight of the body is thrown upon it in a state of freedom. It becomes very narrow, and tapering to a point at the end of the great toe. The instep becomes unnaturally prominent, and the bone which forms the bottom and posterior part of the heel is somewhat turned downward. The foot, thus compressed, is placed in a short narrow shoe, tapering to a point; and sometimes a block of wood is used, so supporting the heel that the body seems to stand on tiptoe, the heel being from one to two inches higher than the toes. The heel also extends backward and upward beyond the heel of the shoe, so that a foot really four or five inches long will stand easily in and upon a shoe only three or three and a half inches in length. The ankle remaining nearly of the natural size, and the instep being very prominent, the organs of locomotion present to Western observers a very uncouth appearance.

Usually it requires two or three years, if properly attended to, for the feet to be cramped into the genteel shape. There is no iron or wooden shoe used for compressing the feet, notwithstanding the contrary opinion which is entertained more or less in Western lands. The instruments employed are strips of cloth like narrow bandages. The foot gradually shrinks and shrivels up. When the bandages are removed for the sake of washing the foot or of bandaging tighter, the small toes, after months or years of compression, are unable to resume their natural appearance and position, but remain cramped up and almost without sensation.

When the process is begun at the proper age, and the bandaging is properly attended to, the heel sometimes comes down to the ground, or rather to the level of the end of the large toe. The heel seems under the process of bandaging to elongate; but when the foot is large, and almost full grown before the compressing of it begins, the heel oftentimes can not be brought down to a level with the end of the toe. Then a block is put in the shoe under the heel, so that the bottom of the block and the end of the toe shall be nearly on the same level when the individual is standing. Really she walks on her tiptoes and heels. The ankle or instep bulges outward in front.

The genteel shoe for the bandaged foot is about three inches on the sole. Sometimes the shoes are even shorter than three English inches. The toes and the heel are thrust as much as possible into the shoe, and the shoe is then fastened upon the rest of the foot, leaving the bottom portion of the shoe visible. The upper part of the foot is always much larger than the shoe, and being bandaged about with cloth, the whole has the appearance of a club-foot. The toes and the part of the foot in the shoe have more or less cloth, or strips of cloth, wrapped around them.

The operation of bandaging is necessarily very painful. The flesh or skin often breaks or cracks in consequence of binding the toes underneath. Unless proper care is taken, sores are formed on the foot which it is difficult to heal, because it is desirable that the parts should be constantly and tightly bandaged. If undue haste is endeavored to be made by bandaging more tightly than is proper, in order to have the foot quickly become small, the pain becomes proportionably greater. If the girl is twelve or fifteen years old before bandaging her feet is attempted, it is found very



THE OVERFLOW OF THE ODER.

THE FAMINE IN SILESIA.

difficult to cause them to assume the required shape, and efforts to do so are accompanied with excessive pain. The bones have by this time become hardened, and almost as large as they ever would grow. Usually, however, in the case of girls of advanced age, the toes are compressed, while the rest of the foot retains its acquired shape to a very great extent. The end of the foot is thrust into the shoe, the heel is supported by a block, and the rest of the foot is bandaged in much the usual way.

Instances have been known of females with bandaged feet, when hired out as servants, leaving off the bandages, and discarding, of course, the small shoe, wearing a larger kind, much like those worn by the large-footed class, at least as far as size is concerned. Such persons' feet are more or less deformed, and doubtless they began to wear bandages when considerably advanced in girlhood.

In consequence of thus wearing shoes into which the toes are thrust, this class of females are apparently very tall. As has been explained, they walk and stand, to a great extent, on their tiptoes, and this fact makes them look taller than they would otherwise look. The small-footed class can not walk firmly. Their gait is mincing and tottering, their steps being short and taken quickly. They are seldom seen to stride along. While they are often quite strong physically, they are generally unable to carry heavy loads, or to manage themselves with ease and adroitness while performing labor which requires moving from place to place. Coarse, heavy work in households, when the women have small feet, is usually performed by males, or by female servants who have large or natural feet.

RESULTS OF VIVISECTION.

[From the *New York Tribune*.]

A series of highly interesting experiments with dogs has been lately made by Prof. Mott, and in the *Scientific American* of Feb. 7 a detailed account is given. The disclosures are so unpleasant and startling, coming home, as they do, to every one, that we believe they should be given the greatest publicity. The effort Dr. Mott is making to purify our articles of kitchen use should receive the support of every thinking man and woman. There has been too much indifference on this subject—an indifference that has resulted in Americans earning the title of "a race of dyspeptics." Poison, year after year, is introduced into the stomach with a criminal disregard to consequences that is appalling. If every purveyor of domestic supplies will carefully consider the result of Dr. Mott's experiments, as detailed in the *Scientific American*, one of the greatest, if not the greatest, of these evils will be corrected.

HISTORICAL EVIDENCE AGAINST ALUM IN FOOD.

Dr. Mott says: "The introduction of alum in flour for various purposes, has been a trick of the baker for the past 100 years. Fortunately for society, its introduction is limited now to a few unscrupulous bakers. In England, France, and Germany it is an offence punishable by fine and imprisonment to use alum in any connection with articles of food. It should be so in America."

The Royal Baking Powder Company, of this City, a long-established corporation, celebrated for the absolute purity of their goods, some time ago commenced a vigorous warfare against many of their competitors who were indulging in hurtful adulteration. The contest excited great interest in scientific circles, in which Prof. Angell, Dr. Mott, and other leading lights took a very prominent part. The experiments of Dr. Mott are a result of this discussion, and go to prove conclusively that the most dangerous adulteration that a community has to guard against is alum in baking powders. In this paper, the Doctor says: "It was with difficulty I found a suitable place to conduct the experiments so that the animals would not disturb the neighborhood; but, through the courtesy of the Commissioners of the Dock Department, I secured a shed on their premises, foot of Sixteenth Street and East River. This shed I had completely remodelled into a suitable house, having the dimensions of about 16x14x12 feet. Sixteen stalls were made inside, having the dimensions of 3½x2x2½ feet. The bottom of each compartment was covered with straw, making a pleasant bed for the dogs. I then secured 16 dogs from the Pound, which were all carefully examined to see if they were in a perfect state of health. None but the strong, healthy dogs were selected. The breed, age, food, color, and weight of every dog was carefully noted. Each dog was then confined to a stall and securely chained, and they all received a number, from 1 to 16. I commenced my experiments on the 9th of September, and finished Dec. 3. My assistant was with the dogs from morning until night, and never left the animals without first securely bolting and locking the dog-house. No stranger was allowed to enter the house unaccompanied either by myself or my assistant, and the dogs never received a mouthful of food or anything else from any one except from my assistant or myself. I will now detail the result of my experiments:

"Dog No. 1.—Breed of dog, coach. Age 1 year. Health, perfect; food, bread and crackers. Color, spotted black and white. Weight, 35 pounds.

"To this dog, on the morning of the 9th of September, was given eight biscuits at 8:10 o'clock. The biscuits were made by myself as follows: One quart sifted flour, 20 teaspoons alum baking powder, 2 cups water, 1 tablespoon butter, 22 biscuits made, weighing 27 ounces; time of baking, 20 minutes.

"At 11:30, just three hours and twenty minutes, the dog was taken very sick, vomiting profusely; his vim and brightness of eye had departed, and he trembled considerably in his limbs."

Experiments were then made upon three dogs with biscuits containing only 10 teaspoonfuls of alum baking powder. The result indicated that some animals are more liable to yield to the effects of poisonous substances than others are. When, on the other hand, three other dogs were fed with biscuits made with pure cream of tartar baking powder, no ill effects were experienced. They ate and ate with an evident relish, day after day, and even whined for more.

It was next necessary to discover what effect alum has on the solvent power of the gastric juice. In order to obtain some pure gastric juice, a curious device was resorted to. Dr. Mott sent several dogs to Prof. Arnold, Medical Department of the University of New York, who inserted a small metallic tube directly through the skin and into the stomach of each one of them. When the dogs were in a perfectly healthy condition, Prof. Arnold sent to Dr. Mott some gastric juice, which was produced by tickling the lining of the stomach of the dogs with a feather or glass rod, which caused the gastric juice to flow out of the tube into a receptacle placed underneath the dog to receive it.

Dr. Mott, aided by Prof. Schedler, then began some experiments with the four samples of gastric juice which he had received from Prof. Arnold, to discover the effect of the gastric juice in which alum had been dissolved upon fibrine, a white, very easily digested substance having a basis of coagulated blood. The fibrine was imperfectly digested, and the experiments were very important, as showing that alum can check the digestion of so easily digested a substance as fibrine. They indicated, therefore, how dangerous it is to introduce these two salts into our stomachs, if we do not wish to excite indigestion and dyspepsia. Further experiments showed that the digestive power of the gastric juice is entirely destroyed by alum, so far as its power of dissolving the more indigestible substances, like the boiled white of an egg, is concerned.

Dr. Mott then determined to learn whether alumina could be found in the various organs of the body if a dog was fed with hydrate of alumina. He found a considerable quantity of the stuff in the blood, liver, kidneys, and heart.

The Doctor goes on to describe the different symptoms exhibited by these dogs as they passed through almost every phase of animal agony until they were left in a complete state of physical prostration. To those especially interested in the details of this subject, the article in the *Scientific American* supplement will give most complete information, and we will spare the sympathetic reader the account of the sufferings of these dumb brutes.

Dr. Mott's conclusions after making these experiments, are of vital interest to every one who either makes or eats bread, and therefore concern all.

"These experiments," said he recently, while speaking before the American Chemical Society, "clearly demonstrate that the salts left in the biscuit when a cream of tartar baking powder is used are perfectly harmless, but when an alum baking powder is used are very dangerous, for in every case where dogs were fed on biscuits made with such powders the dogs were made very sick, causing them to vomit profusely, lose all energy, and show weakness in their limbs."

It is a clear and triumphant corroboration of the assertions of the Royal Baking Powder Company, and entitles them to the gratitude and support of the community they are endeavoring to protect. As they claim, and Dr. Mott has shown, bread made of alum is totally unfit for human or animal food. 'Tis true, in the bread of domestic consumption, there may not be as large a proportion of baking powders as was in the bread used by Dr. Mott, and that accounts for the fact that the symptoms in the reader are not so well defined as they were in the experiments in question. How many there are of our immediate friends suffering from this evil, scientific investigation will alone reveal; but many a lingering and suffering invalid, with no defined idea of his trouble, can easily trace it to its source by stopping the use of alum powders, substituting some brand like the Royal Baking Powder, whose manufacturers have a competent chemist in their exclusive employ, who rigidly analyzes every ingredient before its incorporation into their powder. The old cry of "honesty being the best policy" may be worn threadbare, but its truth will hold forever, and while adulterations and short weights abound, it is a pleasure to see at least one in the trade strenuously endeavoring to give full weights and pure goods.

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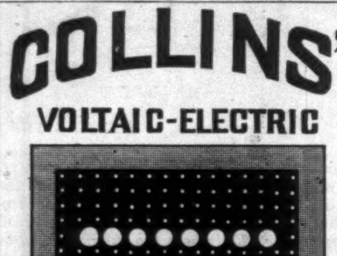

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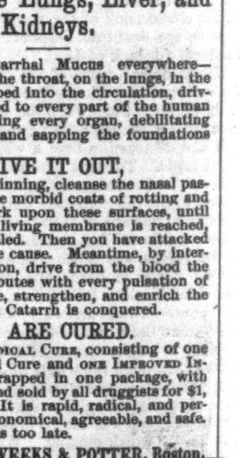

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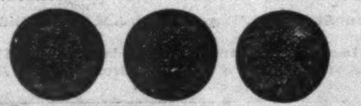

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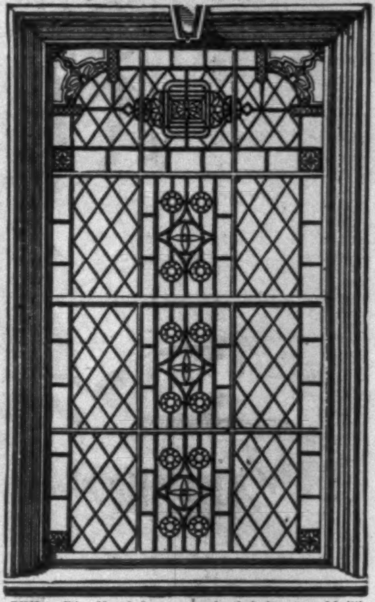

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